

better interiors

134-page Issue
DECEMBER 2014 ₹ 100

IDEAS AND DESIGN FOR BETTER LIVING

CHRISTMAS CRUSH

125+ ways to transform your home into
a festive wonderland this holiday season

FEATURING

Architecture Discipline
Lijo Jos
Nadig Associates
Zero9

BEST BUYS

80 shiny, sparkly picks
that range from baubles to
tableware and accessories

DO IT YOURSELF

2 luxurious set-ups that revel
in the joy of the Yuletide spirit

All I want for Christmas...

Recently I visited a suburban mall in Mumbai with my girlfriends... and their kids in tow. Quite obviously, the mums dreaded taking their young ones to a crowded shopping area. The absence of one parent already gives the kids courage to misbehave. Add to that it's Christmas season and the need for new things grows manifold. But quite cleverly, my friends knew how to counter every "I want..." tantrum with a "If you behave, I'll ask Santa to get it for you". Shockingly, and much to my amusement at how times have changed, the tots' idea of presents included iPads, iPhones, Playstations and high-end automatic toys. That one experience triggered a bout of sweet nostalgia when all my Yuletide requests would include books, stuffed toys, clothes or a cycle if I was feeling particularly lucky.

Times have changed, but the true meaning of Christmas hasn't. Thankfully, the holiday spirit lives on where faith, family, friends and food still remained intact. In the same vein, our special festive issue aims to create the perfect decor to celebrate this joyous occasion. It's always an interesting exercise to research and gather trends in home design and styles for this time of the year. For *Bazaar*, we have scoured the best of tableware and dining accessories. Meals won't just be a time to stuff your bellies to the full. Then there's a spread on devastatingly beautiful tree ornaments too for a little extra cheer to your festivities. In *Techniques*, we've invited the styling team at the illustrious lifestyle store Pinakin in Mumbai to create two distinct set-ups. The living room setting (which proudly glistens on our cover) strays away from stereotypical symbols and motifs. The second set-up is a dining area with a quaint and warm wood-panelled backdrop.

That partnered with a sensuous black and white mosaic floor creates the perfect balance of naughty and nice. A majestic table and complementary robust chairs complete the look. Carefully picked out crystal ware, old-worldly candelabras, exotic crockery and cutlery, and barware are enough to lure you to have a seat and dig into some delicious grub. And if you're feeling the spirit of Christmas, there's plenty of other good design tucked away in other sections.

But yes, a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at **Better Interiors**.

Deepa Nair
Editor



PHOTOGRAPH: MEXY XAVIER; LOCATION: ABODE, MUMBAI



One look at the beautiful Christmas Toy Memory collection from Villeroy & Boch... and you'll be transported to your childhood.



Zero9 brings in both, a country-villa feel and a sleek contemporary vibe to a 950-square-foot 2BHK apartment in Mumbai. Here, each area has been made special for each member, making this home just what the client ordered.



Nadiga Associates create an oasis of tranquil on a 14,000-square-foot area for a family of four in Bangalore. Here, creativity, passion, intense detailing and diversity reign high.



Architecture Disciplines' design for the Art District XIII in New Delhi allows it to foster a relationship with the community by establishing an identifiable location on the street.

editor's pick



New in stores

Walter Knoll's newest furniture range is inspired by nature and reflect and represent the company's passion to create trend-setting interiors.

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DECEMBER 2014



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COVER STORY

Make merry with family, sing carols with friends or curl-up with that favourite book during the holiday season. This comforting yet classy living room set-up created by the Pinakin design team makes you want to indulge in some Christmas celebrations without any hullabaloo.

Cover photograph: Courtesy Mexy Xavier
Location: Pinakin, Mumbai



DESIGN BYTES

018 Roundabout

The latest in design... awards, events, new stores and much more

066 Techniques X-MAS GLAM

A comforting, warm and bright lounge area is what you want when ringing in Christmas with family and friends and the stylists at Pinakin give you just that

072 TABLE OF GRACE

Can you imagine a Christmas Eve dinner without wine, pudding, roast chicken and the works? Guess not! Raise a joyous toast and enjoy a delightful feast this Christmas with the dining table setting created by the team at Pinakin

THING TANK

036 Swish List

Get the celebrations going with this gorgeous line-up of chic furniture, pretty bed linen, stunning pendant lamps and unique accessories

043 Bazaar THE YULETIDE LIST

Beautiful tableware, gorgeous accessories and pretty tree decorations... everything fun and festive comes together to help you dress up your home and prepare delicious feasts



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Each area in this rustic, charming and modern 2-BHK apartment has a distinct personality... the client and the team of Zero9 made sure of that

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Choose from an array of home essentials such as juicer, flooring options, chimneys and more...

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A comprehensive guide to the stores and people listed in this issue

130 **Pick Apart**

The **Better Interiors** team chose their favourites



Write back



KITCHEN COOL

The *Bazaar* pages in your November issue were fantabulous! The article was titled *Cool Tools* and the products stayed true to the title. How do you manage to find such quirky, unusual and smart products all the time? My gang of girlfriends send their best wishes to the team too for putting up such a superb issue. Guess what? We have been ordering all the cool products from the online stores you mentioned from the time the issue landed in our hands. Thank you!

KARISHMA TIPNIS, MUMBAI



SLEEK STORY

I was impressed by the DIY created by the design team of Arttd'inox in your *Techniques* pages. The fact that they used their sleek stainless steel kitchen as one of the core elements in the set-up was impressive. All the other accessories were so cleverly selected to make the kitchen look the king. I am soon going to visit their showroom in New Delhi to look at the product in real.

MAYANK BOSE, NEW DELHI



KITCHEN FIX

From trends, innovative technology to space-saving storage and new-age materials, here's a special guide to get you through your designing mission.

After a long time, I have finally seen a kitchen special in *Better Interiors*. I have been eagerly waiting for your kitchen special from the time I saw the focus on bathrooms you had done some months back. Thank you very much for an issue filled with all the right information to create a new-age kitchen. The article I really liked was *In Focus* with the title *Kitchen Fix*... it was such a comprehensive article on all the latest in the market for kitchens. I am really impressed that **Better Interiors** went all the way to find out developments for each and every nook and cranny of the kitchen. Big applause. Having said that I must confess that I have been a die-hard fan of all the covers you churn out month on month... but the one for the kitchen special was extremely sad (for want of a better word). For an issue which was packed with so many goodies, the cover failed to impress.

DEEPA NAIK FOR NETWORK18 PUBLISHING LTD FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE

Letter of the month

LETTER OF THE MONTH

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KARTHIKA SUDARSHAN, CHENNAI



so much for featuring such outstanding work.

MEHER PINTO, MUMBAI



STORE BUY

I am an interior design and art enthusiast and really read your magazine dilligently every month. I love collecting decor products and revamping my home once in a while. However there aren't many decor stores here. So when I read that InV Home has opened a showroom here, I was ecstatic. I can now indulge in some home accessories easily.

SONALI BATRA, CHANDIGARH

IMPRESSIVE KAA

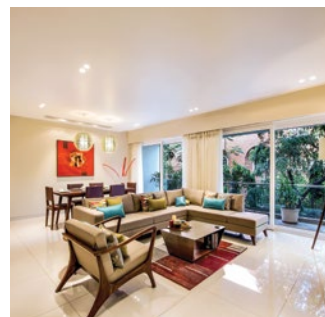
I may be partial, but the design for the Kaa restaurant created by architect Arthur Casas in Sao Paulo can definitely be a model for the watering holes we see in many urban cities in India. Kaa is simply fantastic and it is eco-friendly! The story has been beautifully told in the *Space & Spice* article... so much that I simply feel like booking a ticket and heading to Brazil to experience this space. Thank you



FRAME WOW

The Framed House featured in your *Habitat* section actually blew me away. The contemporary style of the house, the unique designs, the artwork dispersed in various spaces and architectural frames work brilliantly. The space is so impressive in its concept and execution that I am tempted to ask architect Gaurav Roy Choudhury to create a unique space for me too. Must applaud the team at **Better Interiors** for bringing such talent to the forefront. A request: I have always wanted to see how architects work in a tight space... is there a possibility of seeing a Small Spaces issue sometime soon?

PRAJAKTA MANI, CALICUT



SIMPLY ELEGANT

I am a fan of minimal design and I feel there are not many architects who actually play with this ideology... so it was a pleasant surprise to see the work of Usine Studio in the November issue of **Better Interiors**. The Vadodara apartment they designed with the clever use of simple materials impressed me so much that I simply had to write to you. The fact that they had to work around budget and spatial restrictions and come up with such an amazing space is simply commendable. I am going to personally congratulate the team for this awesome work.

DILIP NAIR, BANGALORE



KINDLY WRITE IN WITH YOUR RAVES OR RANTS TO:

deepa.nair@network18publishing.com or post to The Editor, **Better Interiors**, New Era House, Mogul Lane, behind Magnet Mall, Matunga (W), Mumbai 400016.

NOTE: CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE EDITED FOR PURPOSE OF LENGTH AND GRAMMAR.

Round About

A ROUND-UP OF WHAT'S NEW IN STORES, PRODUCTS, ART SHOWS AND MUCH MORE.

QUICK TAKE

D'DECOR'S CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

D'decor has unveiled its opulent and artsy Christmas collection. The range consists of upholsteries, curtains, textured wallpapers, cosy cushions, bedding sets and other home decor accessories. They are available in beige, vanilla, glam gold, coral and more hues.

Tel: (022) 66782030

ONE & ONLY'S FIREPLACE RANGE

The latest collection of wonderful fire places are made of solid logs of teak wood that are intricately hand carved to create fireplaces. The hearth is made of bricks, tiles, marble or granite to make it heat-resistant.

Tel: (0124) 4477781

NEW CHAIRS BY TFR

The Furniture Republic (TFR) has launched a collection of chairs with foot stools for both indoors and outdoors. Available in colours like white, mustard, red and black, these chairs are made of polypropylene, fiberglass and aluminum.

Tel: 8527100811

GPS SYNCHRONIZED CLOCK BY SEIKO

Seiko has unveiled a GPS synchronized clock, the first-of its kind, in India. The wireless wall clock system will wirelessly synchronize time to the exact second. The clock is accurate up to 1 second in 1,00,000 years.

www.seiko.in

Abhisaran hosted by JSW Foundation



ABHISARAN — THREE WEEK

long residency programme will be hosted by JSW Foundation from 10th November to 30th November 2014. A total of 10 talented artists from across the Indian subcontinent converged at Vijayanagar, Karnataka, to create art that recognizes the reality of today and the beauty of a time gone by. Abhisaran would see artists from similar political and

cultural history of the Indian sub-continent, interact and create art works inspired by the historicity of Hampi and Vijayanagar. Some of the artists that participated include Baptist Coelho (India), Chinthaka Thenuwara (Sri Lanka), Mahbubur Rahman (Bangladesh), Muzummil Ruheel (Pakistan) and Sheelasha Rajbhandhari (Nepal).

www.jsw.in/Foundation/

Somany wins award for Veil Craft

SOMANY CERAMICS WAS

presented with The American Ceramic Society's (AcerS) Corporate Technical Achievement Award 2014 for the development of Veil Craft (VC) Shield Floor Tiles. These floor tiles remain physically and visually unchanged, even in areas with heavy footfall. The research resulted in a process in which a chemical composition, christened Veil Craft shield could be coated on the tile above its print. This would not only significantly improve its abrasion resistance but also increase the glaze on the tile surface.

www.somanyceramics.com

Anchor introduces LED lighting solutions

ANCHOR ELECTRICALS HAS LAUNCHED

its new professional LED lighting solutions for consumers for all kinds of commercial, retail and hospitality sectors — SmartArchi Series of high-end architectural luminaries and the PROiD Series of integral-type LED base lights. The SmartArchi luminaries series feature a total of 92 models while the PROiD has 54 models. These LEDs come equipped with specially designed heat sink, anti-glare diffuser and separate energy-efficient electronic drivers, thereby offering a long service life and peerless safety of operation.

www.anchor-world.com



Roundabout

Bonita's stainless steel bowls for the microwave



BONITA HAS LAUNCHED A REVOLUTIONARY product — stainless steel bowls for the microwave, exclusively for heating. Paradise Microwavable Freeze Bowls will not only bring reprieve to those worried about the health risks of plastic, but will also make a consumers life convenient by limiting the hassles of storing food in different containers for

freezing, heating and serving. The bowls have a built-in stainless steel interior and the exterior of the product has a heat-proof plastic covering. Also the airtight plastic lid keeps the content fresh for a very long time. Containers are available in red, turquoise green and purple hues.
www.bonitaindia.com

Hafele partners with Caesarstone



HAFELE INDIA HAS joined hands with Caesarstone, a pioneer in the development of quartz surfaces and a premium quartz manufacturer. Caesarstone quartz surfaces are made of 93 per cent natural quartz making the product strong, non-porous, low-maintenance as well as impact, stain, heat and- scratch-resistant. Apart from the above benefits, the surfaces are also environmentally-friendly. Therefore, by adding Caesarstone to the product portfolio, Hafele offers Indian consumers a high quality and exclusive product.
www.hafeleindia.com

Pallavi Jaikishan's home label



FASHION DESIGNER PALLAVI JAIKISHAN has launched her new lifestyle label Pallavi Jaikishan Home. The designer's home line has pieces created by her, and decor items that are curated from around the globe... whether it is Cliniancourt Paris or Chatuchak in Thailand. The collection comprises of commissioned pieces of tapestry from France and Belgium, a line of embroidered and quilted bedspreads, cushions and a stunning collection of beautiful, silver-plated serving sets, service platters, serving bowls, trays and much more. The new range is available at Paraphernalia at Peddar Road in Mumbai.
Tel: (022) 23511987

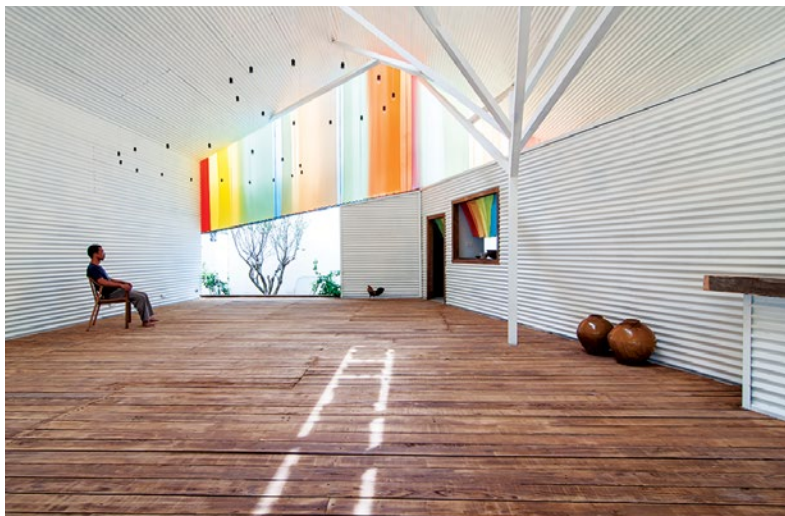
Vertical garden planned in Kochi



FRENCH BOTANIST PATRICK BLANC, who has created over 250 vertical gardens around the world, will showcase one at the second edition of the Kochi Muziris Biennale held in 2014. The Veli gardens have been chosen as the location for his creation as this was where originally the study for the Hortus Malabaricus began. For a start, Blanc plans to use the plants he finds in local nurseries for the garden.
www.kochimuzirisbiennale.org

Roundabout

The Chapel wins World Building of the Year award



A COMMUNITY SPACE CALLED THE Chapel in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam designed by a21studio and built using recycled materials and colourful fabric has been named World Building of the Year 2014 at the World Architecture Festival in Singapore. The steel frame and metal sheets used to build the structure were leftovers from the owner's previous projects, allowing the building to be constructed on a tight

budget. Three layers of printed fabric cover the windows, creating a rainbow of light around the interior, while a tree-shaped steel column supports the roof. The Chapel is designed to be the place for people to participate in activities such as conferences, weddings and exhibitions.
<http://www.archdaily.com/553657/world-building-of-the-year-the-a21-studio/>

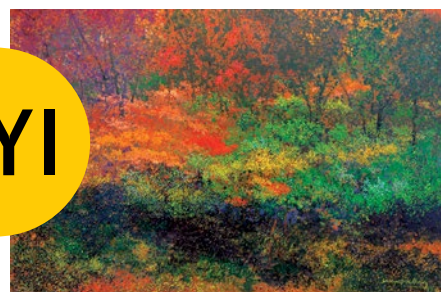
Philippe Starck constructs green home prototype



PHILIPPE STARCK HAS UNVEILED A prototype for his latest series of prefabricated low-energy wooden homes. The residence is the model for the designer's second series of made-to-order houses produced in partnership with Riko, one of the leading European manufacturers of prefabricated wooden buildings. Named

PATH, which stands for Prefabricated Accessible Technological Homes, the collection is made up of four different types of residences — with a total of 34 different floor plans — all designed to consume a third of the energy of a traditional house. The number of rooms varies between one and eight, from a small garden studio up to a generous family home. The completed two-storey house produces 50 per cent more energy than it consumes, due to an assortment of eco-technology systems concealed behind the fluted parapet that lines the edge of roof.
<http://inhabitat.com/philippe-starcks-new-wind-and-solar-powered-home-produces-50-more-energy-than-it-consumes/>

FYI



One Foot Squared

19th Dec 2014 to 21st Dec 2014
Cymroza Art Gallery, 72 Bhulabhai Desai Road, Breach Candy, Mumbai 26.
Mobile: 9820148450

Artezvous, art curators, provide a platform to 21 artists to display their artwork at an exhibition titled One Foot Squared. As the name suggests, the size of each artwork will be 1' x 1'. The artists will be using a mix of oils, pen and ink, pencil, mixed media, acrylic, water colours and more to create affordable art.



Romance with Nature

7th Dec 2014 to 10th Dec 2014
Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Center, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 3.
Tel: 43662024

Artist Surya Prakash's solo show Romance with Nature celebrates the artist's intimacy with the elements of nature. By painting the most ubiquitous and simplistic aspects of nature such as bare tree trunks, dense forests, weeds, wild flowers etc' he has given the aesthetics of his art a new visual play which was made possible by his creativity and emotional reach and feel.

Please note: For insertion in this column, we require details of upcoming events at least a month in advance. We request you to send in event schedules to:
deepa.nair@network18publishing.com
Updates on events is at the discretion of the organizers. Information is valid at the time of going to print.

Book Review

A BOOK THAT PROVIDES A UNIQUE WAY OF EXPERIENCING PARIS.

Hidden Gardens of Paris: A Guide to the Parks, Squares, and Woodlands of the City of Light



A DIMINUTIVE PAPERBACK,

A Guide to the Parks, Squares, and Woodlands of the City of Light seeks to provide readers with a unique way of experiencing Paris as a pedestrian and through its open spaces. Not the grand flamboyant ones alone, but also the everyday open spaces that are occupied regularly and known mostly by its inhabitants. “The best way to get to know green Paris is to walk, discovering as you move from one arrondissement to another the jumble of neighbourhoods, or quartiers, and identities that only the pedestrians have a chance to find.

Paris is ordinary, scruffy, individualistic, bizarre, broken, endlessly inventive, secretive, and tender, haunted with history, generous with pretty squares away from boulevards,” writes the author in the introduction to the guide.

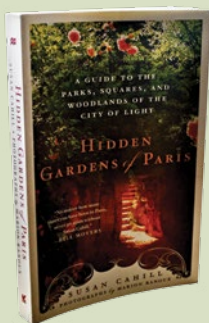
Through this volume, she attempts to feature 40 green spaces of the beloved French city. They span all scales, from small gardens to large urban Parks and even woodlands. The features are organized according to their geographic location, making it easy for a traveller to navigate

with aid of this book. It’s a delightful read that’s easy and doesn’t overwhelm. It carries the basics; there’s a map at the beginning that locates open spaces, along with useful information such as opening hours, proximal metro lines and entrance locations. There are also details about situating nearby attractions such as bistros, bookstores and museums that are popular.

“This book also searches the legacy of each space, the fertile culture of art or history or character that lives in the

consciousness of the city,” writes the author. Accordingly, each open space has been contextualized by its cultural or literary history. The reader will discover that many of the cheerful parks and squares like Square Marice Gardette and Parc des Buttes-Chaumont have memories of dark, often sinister pasts etched onto them. Some gardens featured are charmingly unexpected like the Alpine Gardens and the Jardin des Plantes that showcase the flora of the mountainous regions from around the world. La Promenade Plantee, the three-mile planted promenade that makes use of an abandoned railway line might actually be the precedent of the popular Highline in New York.

This book is for those who would like explore the uncommon sights in one of the most visited city of the world. The photography too is from the perspective of an insider — the cover image is especially lovely and captures the promise that exists in a yet-to-be discovered place.



HIDDEN GARDENS OF PARIS: A GUIDE TO THE PARKS, SQUARES, AND WOODLANDS OF THE CITY OF LIGHT

Author Susan Cahill

Photographs by Marion Ranoux Copyright 2012

Paperback ISBN 978-0-312-67333-8 **ISBN** 978-1-4668-0216-2 (e-book) By St. Martin's Griffin New York

Pages 240

Availability Infibeam, Amazon

Price: ₹ 975 (Paperback) Infibeam ₹ 1,300 (Amazon)

Reviewed by Varna Shashidhar

Art Walk

ARTIST PROMILA ARORA'S RECENT WORKS REFLECT HER FASCINATION WITH ARCHITECTURE AND THE NEED TO BE FREE.

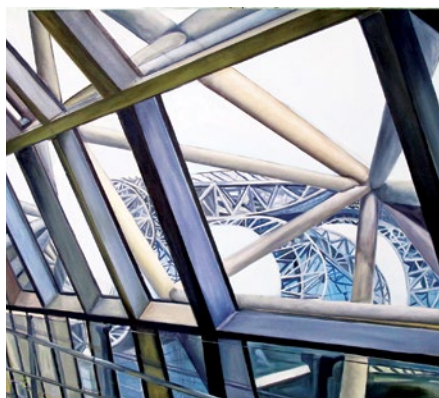


ARTIST

Promila Arora

LIKE A MEANDERING RIVER THAT takes its own course, New-Delhi based artist Promila Arora's paintings are seamlessly connected to each other. Today, her work mostly comprises of architectural paintings. Her latest show, *Vignettes from the Sky* explores the cityscape through glasses and mirrors. It emulates — both metaphorically and physically — an artist's desire to be in two places simultaneously... in the open skies and the city. It is her insatiable desire to travel around the world and soak in the culture of the places that translates into this fascination with structures. For instance, *Strife* is a painting done after the bomb blast in Connaught Place; and the *Runner Series* has been inspired by the 2008 Olympics. Having done her masters in English from Delhi University and after working with Air India for 12 years, Promila decided to pursue her hobby of painting. She formally studied art at the Triveni Kala Sangam and over the course of eight years (2006 till date) has immersed herself in this vocation. In the past, she's showcased her work at the 83rd Annual All India Art Exhibition (2012), Common String, India Habitat Centre (2011) and Timeless Moments, Art Gallery Gurgaon (November 2010) among others.

www.promilaarora.com



Eco Beat

DEAR HUMAN'S DURABLE WALLPAPERING TILES ARE CREATED WITH RECYCLED PAPER.

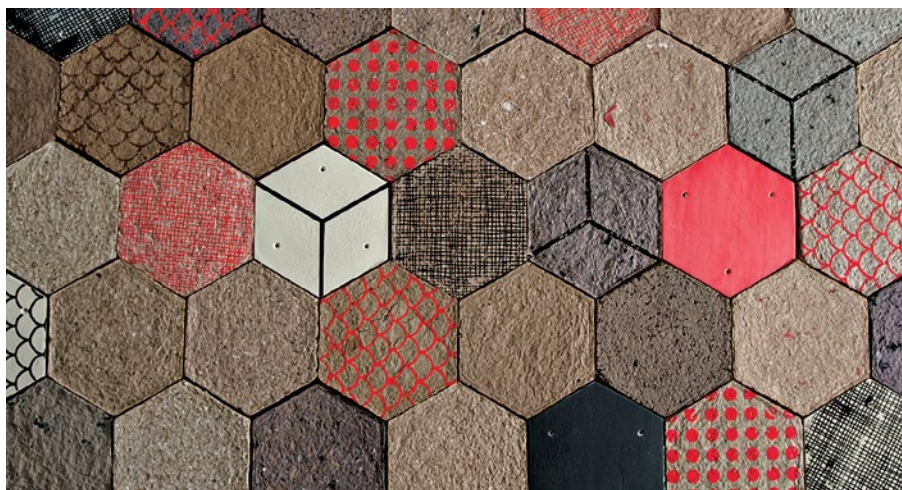


PRODUCT DESIGNERS

Jasna Sokolovic and
Noel O'Connell

FOR LONG NOW, PAPER HAS BEEN

recycled and used in interesting ways. But here's something we've not seen before. Dear Human, a Vancouver-based creative studio founded by Jasna Sokolovic and Noel O'Connell in 2009, has done something very interesting indeed. On a perpetual mission to develop new techniques for their work, the firm has utilized a large quantity of paper offcuts from its neighbourhood garment factory. The tiles named Wallpapering are created by using an air release die (a pressured casting machine which is similar to industrial presses for plastic, ceramics and metals). This quick hydraulic process compresses shredded paper into a hard and durable board. The result is a colourful range of hexagonal tiles (20 mm thick) in a variety of styles and prints. Used for areas not affected by excess moisture, these sturdy tiles also have acoustic absorption qualities. The firm's work draws inspiration from new environments, experimenting with materials, and by collaborating with other designers, architects and artists. In the past, the firm has also experimented with making lovely recycled paper pulp and ceramic lampshades.



Perfect 10

ARCHITECT LIJO JOS OF THE FAMOUS KERALA-BASED LIJO.RENY.ARCHITECTS, TELLS US ABOUT HIS LOVE FOR ART, CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE AND MORE...



ARCHITECT

LIJO JOS

When in life did this passion for architecture engulf you?

It did not happen overnight. Though I was deeply interested in art, never wanted to learn it formally in an institution, so as to be free to explore it in a manner that was personal. If I were to learn something, I had decided that it would be in the field of design as I could explore my interest in art. Making interesting structures as part of school projects prompted me to take up architecture.

Tell us about the team at Lijo.Reny.Architects... does your collaborative energies come together to form the firm's design philosophy?

It's a tiny studio with not more than five people at a time. We are not interested in having a Guinness World Record for maximum projects done in an architect's career... we are with what we get to do. As long as you understand each other's calibre or the lack of it, we think it's easy to work together. Reny (my partner) and I know exactly how much we can push each other's limit to attain productive/satisfying output.

Kerala is perceived as a traditional, conventional state; how difficult is it being a contemporary architect there?

During the initial stages of our practice we constantly reminded ourselves that 'taking inspiration from the past was fine but replicating images from the past for the sake of nostalgia could arrest growth'. This prompted us to explore and experiment with new languages for the region. This could be a never-ending process as it can only be delivered in small dosages or else it would be difficult for the public to digest. The situation in Kerala was generally difficult for a contemporary practice. Times have changed as a group of young architects spread all over Kerala are working towards a similar goal. However, it was relatively easy for us as we were well published/recognized/awarded for one of our projects during the initial stages. Moreover, the public has taken a fancy to contemporary architecture since the last few years. Unfortunately, the desire for clean, straight lines and box-like designs only arrest the possibility of a much-needed evolution in this genre. This could also deter those trying to find that contextual balance in contemporary design. However, we are still working on it.

Art has a strong influence in your work, how do you incorporate it in your projects?

As of now, we satisfy this urge with the poetic use of elements. Like in the case with 'the running wall' a one of our residences which was a reference/ inspiration from the Storm King wall by Andy Goldsworthy and the 'Running Fence' by Christo and Jeanne Claude. The programme of the project demanded such an element and we thought a poetically moving wall would be a great answer. Though most of our present experiments are space and programme oriented, we look forward to extend our limits.

What are the big projects that are keeping you busy these days?

Apart from the many individual residences that come our way, we are working on a novitiate home, a media studies institute and a few art projects.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE...

Which country would you move to and why?

Honestly speaking, I never gave much thought to that idea.

If you would be any character in fiction... who would you be and why?

Probably any character alongside the 'Guruji' in the cartoon strip *Cheriya Manushyaram Valiya Lokavum* (Small Men and the Big World) by film director G Aravindan.

The funniest moment in your design career?

While working for another firm during my initial years, I used to lose track of the clients due to the volume of work we were handling there. Once I was to have this discussion with a client for whom we were designing a handball stadium. The discussion went on for about two hours. The client patiently listened to all my ideas, once in a while asking me simple doubts. Happy that it went well we wrapped up meeting and then came that shattering question — "So when are we discussing the shopping complex we asked you to design?"

The top three tracks on your music list?

Drive by REM, Gafsa by Natacha Atlas and Ladino Song by OiVaVoi. I like these songs not for the content but for how it feels.

The title of your autobiography would be...

If I'm to go by the trend, I guess I should let my ghostwriter decide that.



HIGH Five!

FIVE DINING TABLE AND CHAIR SETS THAT WILL DEFINITELY TURN ANY CELEBRATION INTO A CEREMONIOUS AND EXTRAVAGANT AFFAIR.



1

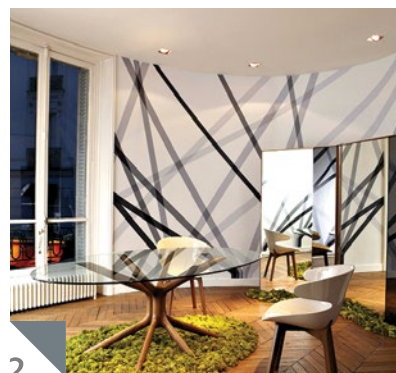
STUDIO CREO

The Baron table from Calligaris has a rectangular laminated top with perimeter legs and frame crafted in metal. It has a smart design to increase the top surface: pull the frame and two legs with hidden castors slide to one side allowing the leaf to be extended. The Boheme chair's seat and backrest sports regenerated leather with steel tubing tapered legs.

₹ 1,61,160 (Baron Table) ₹ 21,720 (Boheme Chair)

ROCHE BOBOIS

Designed by France's Antoine Fritsch and Vivene Durisotti, the stunning Mangrove dining table has an oval top in tempered glass and a central pedestal carved out of stained solid oak. It is also available in a rectangle version. This dining table is beautifully complemented by the Swel Chairs. Designed by Cedric Ragot, the shell of the chair is made from polyester resin (which are available in both matte and glossy lacquer finish), while the legs are crafted from solid oak.



2



3

VISIONNAIRE

The top of the Windsor Dining Table is crafted in marble and its structure is made from gloss-lacquered wood with pillars and outlines in relief and brass decorative elements. Its legs are adorned with aluminium and laser-cut steel embellishments. Priscilla chair has a solid beech structure upholstered in leather or fabric with legs sporting aluminium and chromed steel elements. This glamorous dining set is designed by Alessandro La Spada.



4

THE GREAT EASTERN HOME

The rich botanical dining table is sure to add a sense of sophistication and charm to the home. Inspired by a classic European style, the dining set has been hand-crafted. While the chairs are original antique Moroccan, the table is made of solid Burma teak with a glass top. Bright turquoise seat and cushions accentuate the dark and old-worldly design of the dining table and chairs.



5

INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE BRANDS

Part of Jonathan Charles's Cosmo Collection, this contemporary Hyedua Wood Circular Dining Table has an in-built lazy Susan with a decorative hyedua veneer surface. It has a raised brass inlay detail and is set on elegant curved supports terminating in brass caps. Its elegant walnut dining armchair is loosely based on a 19th-century porter's chair with a high upholstered curved back, sweeping arms panels and sabre legs.

PICK of the Month

THE CLEVER AND COLOURFUL MY BAG BY OLYMPIA CERAMICA IS A WASHBASIN THAT TURNS INTO A PORTABLE CASE!

THE SMART BAG



THERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS FOR THE bohemians out there as Italy-based Olympia Ceramica has introduced an idea (read product) which is best suited for their daily life — My Bag. My Bag is a combination between a bag, a sink and plenty of storage, it's a washbasin that folds into a single easily transportable case. A suitcase, an easel... and the Olympia Ceramica bathroom interprets the vitality, the drive and the dynamism of contemporary life, casting us in a "journey" through innovative, bold and complex design, where the end result is efficiency. The taps, featuring clean-cut silhouettes and mainly two-tone, can be folded down to close it all away swiftly; the wash basin can be accessorized with a soap dispenser; the

leather side storage compartment becomes a convenient organizer; the small wooden pull-out compartment includes a practical make-up mirror. My Bag is definitely innovative and unique for those who wish to turn their bathroom into an exclusive setting, with a sophisticated and original design. What's more, it is perfect for enhancing the appeal of contract settings that want to stand out above the others and where the desired ambience is one that has been furnished in a creative, youthful and dynamic style. This collection is exclusively available with New Delhi-based lifestyle brand Etre Luxe in India.

Etre Luxe, 99, Empire Plaza, MG Road, Sultanpur, New Delhi 30; Tel: 41437711/55;



ANEMOS

The newest collection of lamps at Anemos is a thing of sheer beauty. Prominent amongst them is the one named Bebop Spots (featured here). This grey-coloured pendant lamp featuring 10 lights is retro in design and style and would look great in a contemporary home. Part of the French rustic kitchen collection, the Sun shade chandelier is made from ceramic. Handmade by skilled artisans, the beautiful uneven pattern with a slightly crackled effect adds character to this piece.

Take your pick from exquisite bed linen, gorgeous pendant lamps, unusual accessories and elaborate furniture.



COCOON FINE RUGS

Cocoon Fine Rugs' latest collection of Retro rugs takes inspiration from the fashion and prints of the 60s and 70s. The design work shows usage of bold prints as well as thin line structure work which makes the rugs truly unique. Each rug of this fun and quirky collection is made of handspun wool, which gives them a beautiful patina. Colours such as red, yellow, white, black, grey, blue dominate in this hand knotted collection.



MAISHAA

A new collection of bed linen and soft furnishings has been unveiled especially for Christmas in red, white and green colours. The collection has been designed with modern designs like floral, geometric and abstract which gives your home a youthful and lively look. The collection is made of 100 per cent cotton sateen with a 300 thread count per sq inch and complies with international luxury standards. The collection priced from ₹ 4,995 per set (which consists of a bed sheet and two pillow covers) will definitely inspire you to redecorate your bedroom and living areas.



WALTER KNOLL

D&M have launched Walter Knoll's latest range of furniture for living and working. Inspired by nature, the pieces reflect the zeitgeist and represent the company's passion to create trend-setting interiors. Internationally acclaimed designers and architects such as the design team EOOS from Vienna, London-based Pearson Lloyd as well as architect Ben van Berkel from the Netherlands, have created the new products. Featured here is the Jaan Bench, a new modular upholstered bench by EOOS and the Kyo Lounge, a lounge chair with soft padding. Other products in this new range include the Healey Lounge, Seating Stones and the Keypiece Communication Desk.

Swish List



HOUSE OF RARO

House of Raro's Argent collection of intricately-designed furniture and accessories in metallic finishes is here to recreate the grandeur of the Maharajah era. The intricate metallic finish on consoles, sofas, bars and side tables have been sophisticatedly designed to give any area a dramatic twist. Prominent piece include the Manhaus Chair which is upholstered with Boa faux leather with an ebony veneer base and champagne leaf accents. The Umbria Console and Mirror is a carved console and mirror with champagne silver leaf finish; while the Fiona Liquor Cabinet has a silver leafed motif with mirror and hold accents. The striking Koyla Armchair is created in solid wood but is draped in exquisite ostrich-embossed velvet.



TANGERINE

The Desi Beats Collection reveals the true grandeur of our motherland's vibrant lifestyle, traditions and culture. The collection includes a vast range of furnishings like the king bed sheet (₹ 2,999) with matching pillows covers, double comforters (₹ 5,499), cushion covers, mugs, trays, etc. The bed linen uses 100 per cent cotton and is beautifully colour synchronized with a twist of the Indian magic. Modern stripes, ornamental and floral designs create a captivating experience of the Indian civilization. The bright-tints and intricately-designed mugs and coasters promises to add liveliness with a dash of style to your living spaces.



BUZZARIA

Buzzaria has launched a range of home decor accessories for the festive season. The intricately-designed collection comprises of remote control holders and tissue boxes with unique prints, folding tables, wooden coasters, table mats, trays featuring Hollywood stars and some more. While the paisley-printed coasters are made of engineered wood, an entire range is created from sun board. Pretty lilies have been printed on the remote control holders that have a hardboard body with rexine and metal handles. The funky-Bollywood prints adorned tissue boxes are also made of engineered wood. Not only are these beauties ideal to personalize the decor of your space; they will also serve as the perfect gifting ideas.



SURPRISE HOME LINEN

The newly-launched Blossoming Haven collection by Thailand based Santas is an ode to the ever classic pastels and florals. All the bed sheets are on high thread count in fine cotton fabrics. Most designs are ornate — very typical of the Italian renaissance with baroque-styled decorative motifs. These designs would blend superbly well with homes designed with the classic, ornate and rich European look. The artistic gardens, blooming flowers and flower art on the bed linen will transport you to a blossoming haven.

UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE

Actor Sonu Sood's contemporary living and dining space at his Hometown Moga, Chandigarh, is warm, cosy, stylish, light and bright... all at the same time.

PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY GODREJ INTERIO

Last month, we acquainted you with furniture giant Godrej Interio's innovative campaign titled Upload & Transform (U&T), which allows consumers to get their house transformed for free. Bollywood actor Sonu Sood approached the design team at Godrej Interio to rejuvenate his family home in Moga, Chandigarh. That's when the actor's house went through a complete makeover as part of Godrej Interio's Upload & Transform (U&T) Season 3 campaign.

When Sonu's mother passed away, their longstanding joint dream of renovating their family home almost came to an end. Today, Sonu is really pleased to have accomplished his mother's dream and fulfilled his commitment, and according to him, it's all thanks to Godrej Interio's U&T Season 3. What made the effort all the more rewarding was that the brand's team understood the thought process that went behind each idea and were

able to translate it perfectly into something that the consumer had envisioned.

Last month, we gave you a peek into Sonu's warm and happy kitchen with a citrusy hue and bamboo tones. This time we bring you his large open living and dining space, which bears a simple and minimalist design, perfectly reflecting the owner's personality. The living room thus does not have overbearing hues and is prominently dominated by whites and greys, with colourful pops of accessories to maintain the right balance. The chief furniture pieces at the living area are a mix and match of Godrej Interio's Acoustic and D-Alpina seating (read sofa). In the dining area, the sleek and straight-lined Jewel Jasper dining set strikes a pose. Truly, Sonu's home stands testimony to the fact that the U&T campaign understood the design requirements of each client and translated it into something awe-worthy.

For more details, visit www.myhometransformation.com





The Yuletide List

Cheery Christmas time is all about the joy of giving and there's no better way to do that than celebrate and be generous with family and friends. Whether it's decorating the tree with baubles, bells and stockings or making and eating a hearty meal... here's a festive selection that's bound to make this holiday season special.

ANCHORED BY: ALIFIYA MEHAMDABADWALA; PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY THE STORES





Swarovski

Santa's helper has arrived! The adorable elf sparkles in red, green and clear crystal.
₹ 3,420



House Proud

An ode to the old oil lamps, the Bugia candle-holder from Seletti is made from glass and porcelain. It's a perfect illuminator for an intimate gathering.
₹ 1,630



Home Centre

These accessories and cage candle-holders (crafted from glass, brass and silvered metal). will create a romantic and soothing atmosphere. They are part of the Opal and Opulence collections.
₹ 595 to ₹ 2,995



InV Home

Bring home these lovely rose ball candles in red and white to add a dash of glamour to your festivities.
₹ 1,200 (white/red small); ₹ 3,700 (white large)



Villeroy & Boch

The magical figures, decorative objects (part of the Christmas Toy Memory collection), Toy's Fantasy footed bowls and pastry plates evoke memories of the magical Christmases of your childhood.
Price on request



Home Centre

These bright and sparkly pink and yellow home accents are made of glass and ceramic with mirror embellishments.

₹ 99 to ₹ 1,995



Arttd'inox

This gleaming Tiara centerpiece sports a crown studded with flowers and will look absolutely beautiful on the dining table. Inspired by the art of Kirigami, it follows the technique of cutting a sheet of metal and folding it up into objects.

₹ 6,300



Idus

The beautiful candelabra made from scale lead crystal will look stunning just by themselves.

Price on request



Ravissant

Inspired by wild flora and fauna, a table fountain with splashing birds has been crafted with silver and rose quartz stone.

₹ 2,50,000



Elvy Lifestyle

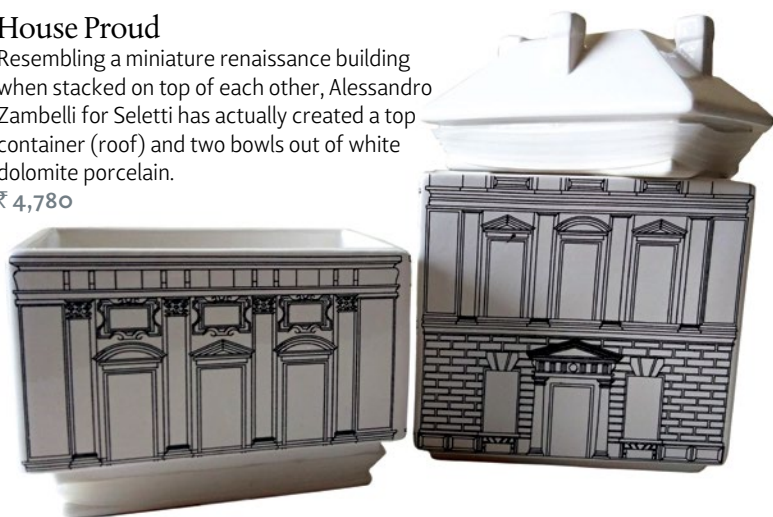
Light up your dining space this Christmas with candle-stands from the Fantasy collection. These gorgeous nickel-plated beauties have been designed in aluminium and come in three graduating sizes.

₹ 2,095 (each)

House Proud

Resembling a miniature renaissance building when stacked on top of each other, Alessandro Zambelli for Seletti has actually created a top container (roof) and two bowls out of white dolomite porcelain.

₹ 4,780



Frazer and Haws

A natural driftwood base holds up a handcrafted sterling silver bowl, detailed with motifs and free flowers in silver. Called Flora Enchante, this one's bound to charm the guests.

₹ 71,500



Elvy Lifestyle

The golden vase has been sourced from the Netherlands. Its ceramic twin (part of the Amour collection) has been designed to create a wonderful contrast.

₹ 6,995



Arttd'inox

Etched with little birds, this stainless steel Fera Gami vase will look absolutely lovely with a bunch of flowers in it during the festive season.

₹ 2,700



InV Home

A bunch of white lilies or roses would look absolutely stunning in this bright red vase.

₹ 5,500



Frazer and Haws
Your dining table will look lovely with this white ceramic Autumn vase that sports sterling silver leaves in high gloss polish.
₹ 18,300



Arttd'inox
Rings of various sizes are joined together to make this sleek stainless steel Ring Candle Stand.
₹ 730



Idus
Charm your guests with this refreshing Stalagmite Lime Vase.
Price on request



D'mart Exclusif
Classic and stylish, this silver-plated candle-stand is the perfect gift for the festive season.
₹ 5,950



Anemos
This unique brass decorative wallpiece with colourful beads on it can be used as a centerpiece as well.
₹ 4,750



The Furniture Republic
The Birds of Joy showpiece from Italy is sure to bring in peace, happiness and prosperity into your home this Christmas. The nest base is made from crystal while the birds have been crafted out of handmade Murano glass.
₹ 1,33,000



At Ease

Candies, flowers, or even beads (in Christmas colours) will look charming in the Umberto Vase that has been mouth-blown by skilled glass artisans.

₹ 16,500



House Proud

Designed to look like four books, the whimsical Biblio Tek Vase is fashioned out of white porcelain.

₹ 5,420



The Furniture Republic

Who wouldn't love to have the Rosa Centro crystal showpiece grace their dining table on Christmas Eve?

₹ 78,900



Home Centre

Each of the exquisite pieces from the Red and Gold story is sure to add a touch of glamour to your Christmas party. While the vases and accessories are made of mirrored glass, the Buddha statue is crafted from brass.

₹ 595 to ₹ 2,195



Idus

The jewel-like Color Drop Vases are hand-blown glasses made by artisans in Poland.

Price on request



Ekaani

Handcrafted in 92.5 per cent sterling silver and crystal glass with lacquer finish, the vase has a beautiful woman hugging a tree on its surface.

₹ 79,350



Swarovski

Create a magical, festive atmosphere with this beautiful gold-tone metal tea-light-holder with crystals on the star.

₹ 3,750



Swarovski

Santa Claus is coming to town dressed in vibrant red and clear crystal with a white lacquered mustache.

₹ 6,790



Idus

The bold red glaze on this compote vase will add to the festive vibe. Small decorative handles make this unique vessel for flowers or fruit.

Price on request



Sanctum

Rudolph's cousin — the green reindeer is made with metal but will be just as cheery this holiday season.

₹ 950



Elvy Lifestyle

Part of the Chinoiserie collection, this enchanting porcelain serve ware is sure to delight your senses with its gorgeous floral pattern and bright colours.

₹ 3,295 (pastry stand)

₹ 2,295 (set of four snack plates)



Elvy Lifestyle

Raise a toast with the Royal Collection from Poland. The shape and design of the different set of glasses and the elegant platinum rim enhances its look.

₹ 2995 to ₹ 4595
(set of six glasses)



Villeroy & Boch

The Samarkand Rubin series of dinnerware combines a powerful colourfulness with a detailed and elaborate decoration for an oriental flavour. Fine gold accents on the porcelain products add to its richness.

Price on request



Le Crueset

Red crockery for a festive meal! The rectangular dish and the round casseroles are made from cast iron while the Rainbow expresso mugs are made from ceramic.

Price on request



Interarts

Indulge in fine dining like the nobles with the Darley Abbey serve ware from Crown Derby UK. Delicate lines and intricate curves create twirling foliage and filigree leaves... further enhanced with hand-applied 22 karat gold.

₹ 2,50,000 onward



The Great Eastern Home

Give generic presents a miss this time and make a loved one's Christmas special with the exclusive range of Pewter Festive Collection comprising a grape knife, cheese platter, glasses and more.

Price on request



Interarts

A dappled gold-leaf pattern around the edges of the serve ware is a playful take on the regal intricacy of Royal Crown Derby's signature pieces. Designed by Bruce Oldfield, the serving items are made from fine bone china.

₹ 2,50,000 onward



Villeroy & Boch

Baking will be even more fun this Christmas with the Winter Bakery collection. The special motifs on the porcelain products are applied with lithography and also partially hand painted.

Price on request



Sanctum

One look at this luscious pink cake-stand made from galvanized sheet iron is enough to make you crave some delicious sweet treats.

₹ 1,450



Elvy Lifestyle

Serve the most lip-smacking delicacies with style on the porcelain Flora dinner set.

₹ 14,995



House Proud

The whimsical Fantastico Domestico Fish Basket by Seletti is perfect for a modern table setting. The open weave, varnished metal basket can be filled with fruits, bread or anything that comes to mind to create a charming centerpiece.

₹ 6,450



The Home of the Traveler

The exotic gold fish pewter tray can be used to serve treats.

₹ 4,600 (large) ₹ 2,150 (small)



The Great Eastern Home

Dine like the royals with this exquisite silverware.

₹ 5,850



The Great Eastern Home

The salad bowl with a cute frog happily perched on top and the cutlery with a sea horse-shaped covering are both made of wood and pewter.

Price on request



InV Home

This crystal glass cake stand and cloche from Zwiesel are a devastatingly beautiful combination.

Price on request



Arttd'inox

The three-tier Monet cake stand is made of stainless steel with a baby pink rosebud passing through its centre.

Price on request



House Proud

This stunning gilded metal cage sits on a porcelain base.

₹ 8,330



The White Window

The platters and trays — embossed with ethnic texture — will add a touch of elegance to the regular table setting during meals.

Price on request



InV Home

Drink up in style with Schott Zwiesel's wine glasses that are crafted out of tritan crystal glass. The stemware varieties include Vina, Champagne, Burgundy and Bordeaux.

₹ 3,345 onward



Interarts

When it comes to fine dining, Arthur Price's cutlery is your ideal choice. Fashioned out of stainless steel with a gold-plated rim, each piece represents sophistication.

₹ 90,000 onward



Home Centre

A maple leaf motif graces the surface of the plate in the Maple dinner set that's made from porcelain.

₹ 1,999



Anemos

This ceramic plate with dainty blue floral design will not only serve your dinner but will look good on a wall too!

₹ 9,500



Episode

This Salt-n-Pepper Kangaroo dispenser takes inspiration from the Australian animal carrying a joey in its pouch.

₹ 17,440



Portside Cafe

The MDF surface of the Balli Maran tray is clad in hand-stained leather with exquisite gold foiling on the edge.

Price on request

Elvy Lifestyle

Organize the best tea party with the anti-tarnish and maintenance-free cake knife and server studded with crystals.

₹ 1,995



Elvy Lifestyle

These stainless steel cutlery items with brass handles are sure to up the glamorous ante at any shindig.

₹ 2,495



Elvy Lifestyle

Gold polka dots and butterfly patterns adorn this charming porcelain dinnerware that's part of the Elegance collection.

₹ 3,295 (set of four coffee mugs) ₹ 2,995 (set of four snack plates) ₹ 2,495 (platter) ₹ 3,295 (two-tier stand) ₹ 1,995 (set of four spoons) ₹ 1,995 (set of four forks)



Good Earth

Dress your tree at home with this majestic array of knick-knacks that include gold peacocks, elephants and tigers. Drawing inspiration from tropical tales, these ornaments sport the brand's signature *jaali* pattern.

Price on request



Interarts

This irresistibly charming Platinum Bell made of fine bone china creates a delightful festive feeling. Available in gold as well, the contemporary ornament has a delicate classic hint.

₹ 12,000



Safomasi

Fill up these hand-screen-printed cotton stockings with goodies to welcome festive cheer into your home.

₹ 950



Swarovski

Encouraging peace and hope, the Angel Ornament sparkles pretty in clear crystal while a delicate bird crafted in silver-tone metal sits daintily.

₹ 7,600



Swarovski

Get this stunning tree topper for your Christmas tree. It features a silver-tone metal star embellished with clear crystals.

₹ 7,600



Villeroy & Boch

This celebratory hamper features a small annual bowl, an annual mug, two ornaments and an angel — all decorated with a Cinderella motif.

Price on request



Home Centre

Made with coloured glass, the Mughal-era inspired lanterns will add sparkle to your home during Christmas.

₹ 250 to ₹ 695



Pepperfry

Illuminate your home with the LED pink string lights that look like holly leaves.

₹ 382



Interarts

Made of fine bone china, this wreath in festive red and green on a background of pure white is a delightful addition to your Christmas tree.

₹ 9,000



Interarts

This adorable angel, made with fine bone china has been manufactured by Crown Derby UK.

₹ 12,000



Sanctum

There's nothing more festive than bright red string lights.

₹ 2,215



Villeroy & Boch

Ditch the classic decorations and get this yummy gingerbread cake ornament for your Christmas tree.

Price on request



Swarovski

Inspired by the Poinsettia flower, a traditional Christmas symbol, this beautiful embellishment combines red crystal with golden-tone metal details.

₹ 2,510



Swarovski

Specially crafted for your little one's first holiday, this utterly cute hanging ornament aptly has the words 'Baby's first Christmas 2014'. The white lacquered metal frame is decorated with little crystals and a red bow.

₹ 2,890



Villeroy & Boch

The red heart with a bow will look lovely when hung on your tree.

Price on request



X-mas Cheer

Two lovely luxe settings created by lifestyle brand Pinakin for the home celebrates the true spirit of Christmas in style.

- ▶ A cosy, serene living set-up that is not flooded with Christmas goodies but silently exudes a merry warmth.
- ▶ A jolly yet sophisticated dining table spread for that lavish Christmas lunch... distinct furniture, crockery, crystals and barware take centrestage.

X-mas Glam

We invited the talented team of stylists at the upmarket luxury brand Pinakin in Mumbai to create a living room setting for this holiday season. They envisaged a space for Christmas that oozes of a cosy, relaxed and cheery vibe devoid of the quintessential X-Mas symbols and motifs. Three festive hues reign supreme here: gold, red and green that have been dispersed in a controlled amount through the furniture, furnishings and accessories.

ANCHORED BY DEEPA NAIR; TEXT ALIFIYA MEHAMDABADWALA

PHOTOGRAPHS MEXY XAVIER, ASSISTED BY JOSHUA NAVALKAR; LOCATION COURTESY PINAKIN STORE, MUMBAI







- 1 Christmas is all about spreading cheer, spending time with loved ones and indulging in festive decorations for the home. Here, a vase with green bush, a shiny tea light and candle stand and pine cones represent colour, light and joy... symbols that define this festival.
- 2 This unconventional Streamer trunk will grab eyeballs when kept as the centre table in your living room. Made of antique brass and wood with a vintage leather and suede interior; it's a good hiding place for your Christmas gifts; ₹ 1,63,125; PINAKIN.
- 3 A mosaic of stone, veneers and acrylic... the Glow Wall Cladding Panels will enhance the luxe quotient of any space with its gold and beige hues; ₹ 2,815 per sq ft; PINAKIN.
- 4 The beige chenille tufted Taper sofa makes you want to curl up with a hot cup of cocoa and wait for Santa while he comes down the chimney bearing gifts; ₹ 2,41,200; PINAKIN.
- 5 Add a bit of Greek history to your drawing room decor with this velvet cushion with Alexander the Great's face printed on it; ₹ 12,000; PINAKIN.



- 6 Designed by the famed designer Pinakin Patel, the luxurious-looking Imperial Profile Chair has a polyester seat, black PU gloss polished wooden legs and a back rest upholstered in raw silk with velvet patches. Not only does it look comfortable but it blends well with the setting too; **₹ 74,532; PINAKIN.**

- 7 The bright red cushion cover is stitched in cotton fabric. The USP of this cushion is the red faux feathers, each of which

have been hand stitched individually; **₹ 4,722; PINAKIN.**

- 8 The Taper Side table goes well with the shades of the other furniture and accessories. A textured precious marble top and black lacquer and gold leafed legs makes it apt for this set-up; **₹ 37,800; PINAKIN.**

- 9 The Patchwork carpet is made of 100 per cent short haired leather; **PINAKIN.**



- 10 Wrap this throw made from 100 per cent cotton on a chilly winter night and make yourself warm; ₹ 3,950; PINAKIN.
- 11 We all know that a bunch of cushions in various colours, textures and patterns have the ability to set the mood of any given space. The bright red silk cushion with tube lace and gold thread embroidery stands out in the neutral surroundings; ₹ 3,500; PINAKIN.
- 12 The patchwork cushion is made from a mix of polyester to replicate raw silk, velvet, chenille, suede and corduroy; ₹ 3,500; PINAKIN.
- 13 An odd one out of sorts, the grey-coloured plain cushion is created from polyester with silk tassels and borders; ₹ 1,500; PINAKIN.
- 14 When put together with the others, this beige textured cushion fits in well with

the entire look created for this setting. Polyester has been used to make this one; ₹ 2,500; PINAKIN.

- 15 Its hard to imagine a home without a Christmas tree covered with light and baubles during the festival. Taking this sentiment to another level, X-Mas trees in four different sizes made from paper veneers are lined up to create that festive aura; ₹ 9,000 to ₹ 10,500 (depending on size); PINAKIN.
- 16 A bit of shimmer and sparkle is dispersed into the room with the Buffet lamp that reflects light. Its metal shade is crafted from nickel; ₹ 36,750; PINAKIN.
- 17 The Dome vases made from tinted glass sit pretty on the side table; ₹ 10,125 (set of three); PINAKIN.

Unlisted prices are on request. Prices are subject to taxes wherever applicable.



Table of Grace

Presenting a dining table setting to celebrate Christmas in style. Warm, cosy, cheerful and distinct is how the stylists at Pinakin store wanted the ambience to be. So, here a smooth and sleek dining table with complementary high back snug chairs is set against a warm wood-panelled backdrop and accentuated by the gorgeous black and white hounds tooth flooring. Luxe and colourful crockery, candelabras, crystal decorations and uniquely-designed barware and cutlery complete the look.

ANCHORED BY: DEEPA NAIR; TEXT: ALIFIYA MEHAMDABADWALA

PHOTOGRAPHS: MEXY XAVIER, ASSISTED BY JOSHUA NAVALKAR; LOCATION: COURTESY PINAKIN STORE, MUMBAI



- 1 The Mughal-*jali* inspired Block Print wall lends a warm and rustic characteristic to the setting. The entire wall is made of walnut wood wherein each patterned-block has been hand-carved; ₹ 3,375 per sq ft; PINAKIN.
- 2 Enjoy a grand meal on the shiny Ellipse Table crafted out of Italian natural veneer with stainless steel inlay and solid stainless steel chrome legs. The shiny surface is achieved through a glossy clear lacquer top; ₹ 3,78,000; PINAKIN.
- 3 Upholstered in plain chenille with a sensuous velvety handle, this very inviting Ellipse Dining Chair is a

perfect pick for the dining area. The chair is made of teak with mocha PU matt polish on the legs; ₹ 36,788 (each); PINAKIN.

- 4 Raise a toast on Christmas Eve with this sparkling wine goblet that's part of the Allegorie Collection. The timeless crystal stemware is generously proportioned and complements any table; ₹ 2,700; VILLEROY & BOCH.
- 5 The gold conical flutes (used as props) create a striking contrast to the shimmering crystal stemware; STYLIST'S OWN.



- 6 Place this elegant vase with lovely winter blossoms to add beauty to your dining table. Handmade in clear crystal glass with a unique diamond-cut design on its surface, it belongs to the Pieces of Jewellery range; **₹ 21,900 (each); VILLEROY & BOCH.**
- 7 Whether still or sparkling, sip water in the crystal Highball Glass from the Boston Collection and bring everyday luxury into your life; **₹ 1,500 (each); VILLEROY & BOCH.**
- 8 This stunning compilation of plates (made from premium bone china) with red and gold delicate accents represent the festive spirit of Christmas. The top plate is from the Samarkand Rubin collection, centre plate is from the Samarkand Mosaic Collection while the one below is from the Aureus Collection; **₹ 4,100 (top), ₹ 4,500 (centre), ₹ 8,500 (below); VILLEROY & BOCH.**
- 9 The elegant, narrow silhouette with long drawn-out, slightly-curved handles of the cutlery (made from special steel) from Ella Part Gold collection is further enhanced with the partial-gold plating on the surface; **₹ 1,400 (spoon), ₹ 1,400 (fork), ₹ 1,500 (knife); VILLEROY & BOCH.**
- 10 This antique original glass Czechoslovakian candelabra with brass fittings and red and white colour-scheme makes the space look cheery and bright; **₹ 40,000; PINAKIN.**

Unlisted prices are on request. Prices are subject to taxes wherever applicable.

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Here to Inspire

Different design ethos, varying areas, disparate colour schemes... three spaces that have nothing in common, except their uniqueness!

- A two-BHK apartment in Mumbai get's an old-worldly and charming makeover by the design team of Zero9.
- When Nadig Associates are given complete artistic freedom, they put in their all to create an aesthetically appealing, luxurious bungalow in Bangalore.
- The Art District XIII by Architecture Discipline in New Delhi is anything but conventional... it would change the way one looks at art and art galleries.



TWICE AS NICE

Creating a country-villa feel in a 950-square-foot 2BHK unit and a design process that would begin with the 'wrong' end first... these weren't a deterrent to design boutique Zero9, which fulfilled both these specifications with ease in this Mumbai apartment.

TEXT: RUPALI SEBASTIAN; PHOTOGRAPHS: SEBASTIAN ZACHARIAH; COURTESY THE ARCHITECTS





Warm as only a rustic homestead can be, rough-plastered walls and honey-toned jaisalmer create the right setting for stoneware-style pottery and old-world furniture. The numerous accessories are the hero here, with plenty of shelves and niches being created to put them forth in the right manner.



These sofas are the clients' house in the countryside. The architects had thought of something similar for this place, so rather than creating new pieces, these were pressed into service here. The arched niches are a nod to the client's request for 'something Rajasthani'.

Spaces are like people. They have a personality. The sleek, clean lines and finishes of a contemporary interior bring to mind a formal individual. Suave, sophisticated, soigne. With a well-modulated voice and having a laughter doled out in carefully measured doses. A rustic style, on the other hand, with its rough-hewn surfaces and friendly scattering of accessories evoke images of flyaway hair and an informal sartorial grace. Of hearty guffaws and back-slapping camaraderie. Most spaces we've seen are the one or the other... except this apartment in an upscale Mumbai suburb.

"The client was very clear about the two distinct styles that were to be used in a single space," reveals architect Prashant Chauhan of Zero9, which was commissioned this work. "The areas that the lady of the house was most involved in — the kitchen and the living room — had to have an old-world feel and an interactive quality, and the private zone had to be strictly contemporary." What's more, the break between the two styles had to be clean: there would be no soft blurring of the boundaries or a gradual transition from one style to the other. "Not something that one usually encounters, but, well, this was a design mandate." There were more to follow.

This is a second home for the clients; their primary one being just outside urban limits, set in a quasi-agrarian landscape. So the second specification was to infuse a country villa-esque feel into the interiors. And the third one was that the design scheme needed to assimilate the client's considerable collection of artefacts, spanning ancient cookware, decorative chains, statues and the like.

"Whenever we begin any project, we put together a document with the clients' likes and preferences and wish lists. Usually you take care of the furniture layout, the electrical schemes first, and then follow that up with accessorization," discloses Anu Chauhan, the other principal at Zero9. "But in this case, the book started with sketches that proposed ways and means of including a sizeable collection of accessories... way before we'd even actually had a chance to see them. In that sense, this project began with the last end first." Once the client was confident the architects would do justice to her cherished acquisitions, they set upon the task of physically sifting through the pieces and figuring out how each one could be put forth in the best light. For this, came the very important exercise of studying the column layout in an extremely detailed fashion. "We had to do this because we



ARCHITECTS

Prashant Chauhan and
Anu Chauhan



LEFT Ornamental chains, from the client's collection, have been carefully spruced up, and put up on display near the entrance. The two arched windows look into the kitchen. Earlier, a door stood in their place; it has been blocked up and shifted to the living room.

BELOW The public areas of the house have a seamless feel to them. This interactivity was deliberate so that the lady of the house could take a more participative role in entertaining. The jaisalmer-bordered arch frames a distress-finished unit, making for a nice composition. The different depths of the four niches to the right are because of a column.

needed to ascertain where we could put in niches and of what depth could those be, where the shelves could be positioned..." says Prashant. "We took into account several of these objects, and created display points specially for them. Some were accommodated in niches, some were mounted on the wall. Others were arranged on specially created shelves and window ledges."

The existing spatial configuration didn't see too much of tampering; only the door to the kitchen, which originally opened into the entrance passage, was blocked up, and shifted to the living area; and the footprint of the house was enlarged by reclaiming unused portions. The earlier 2-foot-deep false ceiling was replaced with a thinner version that would accommodate slim conduit pipes. Walls were given cut-outs wherever possible to create a feeling openness, and the punctures thus obtained were put to good use as display points. "The idea in the living room-kitchen section was to create attractive compositions. There had to be something going on in every corner," reveal the architects. "Reclaiming dead areas gave us small projections internally, which, in one case, has been used to accommodate a day-bed, and create a cosy pocket. The balcony railings were retained for their







CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT The kitchen dado features handmade ceramic lights. The 'latticity' pelmet of the wall-mounted storage infuses a wonderful old-world feel.

A metal cage, bought from Good Earth, displays a ceramic avian.

An assortment of collectibles strikes a pose against the rough walls. The architects toyed with a variety of strategies for achieving the right look, including cow-dung, but settled for a rough plaster painted over.

Brass frangipani leaves embedded into the stone flooring lend a quaint charm to the room. The rough veining creates a soothing acupuncture-effect when you walk over them.

Various display points have been created to put the limelight firmly on the veritable treasure trove of collectibles. This one lies right near the entrance.

Tiny greens and flowers make transform the bathroom into a spa.

The side-wall of the sink unit is a POP surface embedded with ceramic tiles.

This home is full of compositions. This one, for instance, as a small niche, created at just the right height, with a bow-legged table set in front.





CONCEPT: To create an apartment with two distinct portions: a 'public' country-side old-world feel starring a sizeable collection of objets d'art and a 'private' contemporary one.

The final layout of the house came about after reclaiming wasted spaces and protrusions. One of the latter now houses a day-bed.

simplified form which would provide a fitting backdrop to the greens.” To create the right stage for all the accessories and to reinforce the old-world rusticity, the shell of the public zone, too, had to fulfill certain stylistic norms. The choice of flooring wasn't that much of a problem: jaisalmer stone seemed to be the right material, its charm elevated by an inlay of

brass frangipani leaves. The walls, however, were a different story, and this is where the architects faced their biggest challenge. “A rough wall surface was what we wanted to create, but precisely how to achieve it was an area of much deliberation. We contemplated mud plaster, even cow dung... but in the end, it was rough cement plaster, simply painted over without finishing with putty, which won.”



This curtailed version of a dining space features something between a breakfast counter and a full-fledged dining table. The base was actually a credenza (already in the clients' possession), which was given a glass top and transformed into a dining table of sorts. This was because the guests freely circulate within the public zone when there's a gathering, and the living room becomes an extension of the living space.

The furniture is mostly what the architects call "Parsi-style": tile-fronted, bow-legged consoles and a three-seater, accompanied by other ethnic expressions in wood. The only exception to this is the simple, clean-lined sofa set which belonged to the clients and happily fit the form as sought by the architects. The dining table, too, is an example of making the most of what was available. "The table is an abridged one, somewhere between a full-fledged version and a breakfast counter. The lady of the house didn't want a 'proper' dining area, so we converted a credenza that she already

had into an eating counter by giving it a glass top."

Lighting came in the form of surface-mounted ceiling lights and several handi-style pendants. The artefacts housed within niches, bathe in the gentle illumination thrown by recessed spotlights. In the kitchen, the lighting under the over-the-counter units are shielded by jaalis instead of the regular solid pelmets, an effective decorative play to reinforce the theme in an otherwise functional space. "The other strategies to heighten the rusticity of the kitchen include a



LEFT The bathrooms, like the rest of the private zone, are contemporary in styling. The spirit of indulgence continues, this time seen in the spa-like accessorization.

BELOW The kid's room: The occupant's soft corner for the Dark Knight has been expressed in a restrained fashion as a Duco-painted MDF version of the iconic Bat Signal reposing on leather panelling.

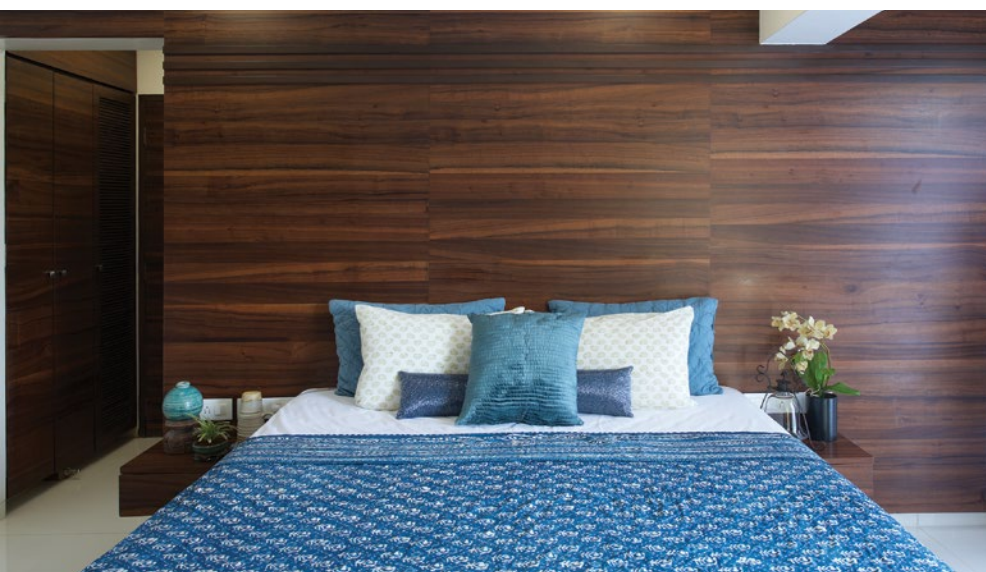
MATERIALS

Flooring Jaisalmer stone with brass inlay (entrance lobby, living room and kitchen) and G4 engineered stone (bedrooms) **Windows** Wood frames **Walls** Plaster with white paint (entrance lobby, living room and kitchen); handmade ceramic tiles (kitchen dado) and plain POP (bedrooms) **Lighting** Surface-mounted ceilings lights, pendants and recessed lighting in niches **Furniture** Wood (living room); veneered with brown mirror (master bedroom); and pinewood (bed platform in kid's room)

dado of handmade tiles and a rough-plastered portion near the sink area embedded with more handmade tiles. Also, the client had a distress-finished unit that fit the scheme beautifully," says Anu.

This then, is largely, how the public zone looks: rough-hewn wood, handmade tiles, distressed paint, stoneware, ancient-style accessories... Step into the private zone, and the mood shifts dramatically, even disconcertingly. Stark white G4 engineered flooring replaces honey-toned jaisalmer; wood gives way to veneer; accessories are





The master bedroom, as per the clients' wishes, has been articulated as a contemporary space. The slick feel of the veneered furniture and brown-mirrored wardrobes finds a counterpoint in the stone murti.

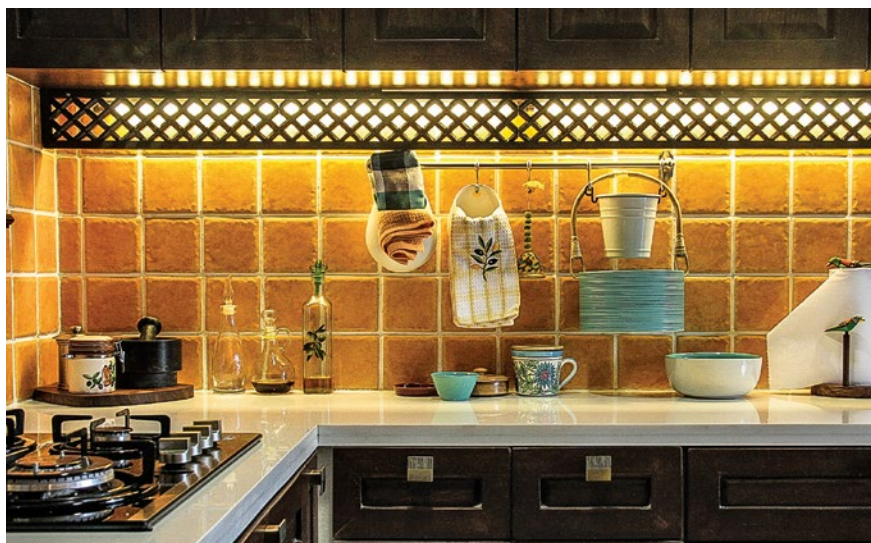
minimal; lighting is mostly recessed. In the master bedroom, wardrobe shutters in brown mirror visually expand the space; while a batman icon in MDF, backlit and mounted on leather panelling behind the pinewood platform bed, declares the son's favourite among the superheroes.

A dichotomous design notwithstanding, this home presents different experiences for different privacy levels, and fulfils what its occupants seek from their sanctuary. Each area has been made special for each member, making this home just what the client ordered! **BT**

FACT FILE: **Project name** The urban retreat (a private residence) **Area** 950 sq ft **Location** Juhu, Mumbai **Principal architects** Prashant Chauhan, Anu Chauhan **Design Team** Amey Kolwalker

Smart Picks

A HOME BY ZERO9



Craving for carving

Getting in big elements that suit your decor theme is a no-brainer. It's also the little things that will help to carry this thought through. River-washed pebbles embedded in plaster in a bathroom will reinforce an aquatic theme. Similarly, here, the boxy pelmet is replaced by lace-like panels to underline the old-world Indian feel. In conjunction with the handmade tiles of the dado, it creates a wonderfully warm, homely ambience. In the same vein, the client wanted something of Rajasthan in her house. More handmade tiles came to the rescue. This time with a block-print-like design to form part of an accent near the sink area.



Sturdy elegance

Design is sometimes about thinking on your feet. Here, the lady of the house did not want a full-fledged dining area, so the architects went back to the drawing board (they'd included a dining area in their earlier layout), and came up with a dining counter positioned along a window. The table itself was a refashioned credenza. The niches below served to display old-style cookware. A similar improvisation can be seen in the group of four niches. The architects had made a detailed study of the column plans as the design scheme included many niches. But somehow they missed the one here. But instead of reducing the planned number of niches, they simply reduced the depth of two, and used them to serve, in one case, a wall-mounted artefact. So don't worry if one plan doesn't work out. Put on your think cap, and you're sure to come up with something good!

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FREE REIGN





When a client in Bangalore implicitly trusts the folks over at Nadig Associates, the result is a mammoth home with luxe spaces that are seamlessly connected through ingenious aesthetics.

TEXT: APURVA BOSE DUTTA; PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY NADIG ASSOCIATES



ARCHITECTS

Anu Nadig and Dilip Nadig

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP

LEFT The entire house is snugly nestled in nature and generously invites greenery inside too.

Wooden frames define the driveway.

The strong exterior massing of the house is charmingly broken by voids, frames, wooden cladding and the use of glass.

The topping of glass on the wooden frames makes for a practical car-parking area.



CONCEPT: To create a contemporary home where natural light could be maximized, living spaces could be extended as much as possible and the building had the ability to naturally ventilate.



“I don't know why people hire architects and then tell them what to do.” Coincidentally, the day I stumbled upon this Frank Gehry quote was the day I visited a bungalow in Bangalore nestled in a secluded area. Surrounded with greenery, the gorgeous structure was evocative of the old peaceful Garden City. Here was a client from the real estate industry who handed over a 14,000-square-foot plot area to his architects Dilip and Anu Nadig to construct his residence and gave them an entirely free hand. There were no prescribed brief, existing materials, budget, questions and even interference. Built for a family of four, a couple and their two teenage children, the design of the house corroborates the creativity, passion, intense detailing and diversity that an architect can bring into his/her designs, with the complete trust of the clients.

Nadig Associates is the Bangalore firm headed by Dilip Nadig and Anu Nadig. Through the company's 24-year run, the two have dabbled in fewer residences as compared to their other body of work. Infact, the firm doesn't work on projects less than 8,000 sq ft. So this contemporary bungalow completed in 2014 fit the bill and found its inspiration in Balinese architecture. Once the structure was erected, the architect-couple set out on a 10-day visit to China, picking up loose furniture, artefacts and accessories. When they returned, the duo conceptualized the interiors accordingly. “We actually carried life-sized plans of the house to China to get proportionate-sized material,” says Dilip while admitting that they genuinely enjoyed doing the house with no frivolous spending and the clients asking for no changes.

Sometimes, complete creative license can lead to ostentatious design especially with large spaces. However, this bungalow makes an impression through its gentle but affirmative, minimalist yet striking design. One that weaves through a fascinating structure fulfilling the basics of space, lighting and ventilation. Additionally, the architects have used materials, furniture, texture and accessories to deftly impart an enduring meaning to each nook and cranny. It's also a lesson in restraint and how huge space need not be disconnected but actually something that is inviting and peaceful.

Spread over three levels, this 12,000-square-foot bungalow sports varying heights and soft elements that convert each vista from the interiors into an alluring space. There's a sit out and a deck on the ground floor; terrace gardens, balcony and a bar area on the upper



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT The two feature elements in the foyer are the stone-cladded piece and lush carpet.

Bold accessories complement the regal sofas in the foyer.

The double-height family space shares merges with the landscaped sit-out section.

Spaces seamlessly flow into each other but manage to retain their own flavour.



levels. Being 100 per cent Vastu-compliant, the driving force of the design in many aspects became the science itself — the concept of stepped courtyards features as a consequence of the mandate of level differences.

The strong exterior of the house is charmingly broken by voids, frames, wooden cladding and the use of glass. Wooden frames (topped with glass) define the driveway as well as the approach route to the east-facing main door. The entrance foyer gives way to the formal living, a double-height family living area (facing a sculptured staircase), the dining-kitchen space and a guest room.

A cornered glazing from the foyer to the family living to the dining throws open views of a covered landscaped sit-out. The first level has the kids' bedrooms, a family space looking into the bar deck and terrace garden, a home theatre and an extensive 15'10"x13' puja space. The second level has a huge master bedroom and extended terrace gardens.

When such vast spaces are designed, there exists the freedom to use multitude of things, but to bind it to make it look compact yet gratifying remains a challenge. In this bungalow, each furniture piece, accessory and material has a deliberate intent.



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: While the sun seeps in through the full-height glazing, the cut-out near the lift area visual connects spaces.

A crushed tissue chandelier drops from the first floor into the family space underscoring the large double height volume.

The sculptured staircase in steel and wood appears lighter on the eyes.

Wood dominates the dining area in the false ceiling and in dining table made in solid wood. The Armor Quartz coating on the walls tricks the eye into seeing wallpaper.

The jigsaw-puzzle centre table complements the neutral palette in the formal living room. The wooden louvre partition creates a point of interest and camouflages the lift area.





MATERIALS

Flooring Combination of Italian marble, solid wood and engineered wood
Flooring Walls Armor Quartz, wall papers, Corian (*puja* space)
Ceiling Combination of plaster of Paris, veneer and wallpaper

Materials employed have enduring, low-maintenance qualities and bear textured treatments. Colour comes through in varying greens. The use of wood is ingenious in the form of teak, veneers and engineered variants. Equally intelligent is the intricate coordinated furnishings. Together, these elements define spaces; for instance the wooden louvre partition in the formal living (concentric circles with increasing diameter) provides a sense of interest from the foyer. It concurrently camouflages the lift area. A stone-cladded feature in the foyer further follows a similar colour palette of the mute glistening Italian marble flooring (catching some magical reflections) and the banana blinds used throughout the house. The special wall treatments especially on the dining and staircase walls (Armor Quartz coating) reproduce the aesthetics of wallpapers. The extensive false ceiling with veneers complementing the POP further highlights spaces and their directions.

There seems a genuine effort to make the design lighter on the eyes. Take for example, the clever departure from a staircase in RCC to one in a laser-cut 250dia MS Pipe and solid teak. It's sleeker, given its ubiquitous visibility in the house and allows a lot of filtered light to come through the west sun that barges through its full-length glazing. There are cut outs on all three levels near the lift that keeps that space connected — physically, visually, tangibly and mentally.

The bedrooms inherently follow a theme. Robust elements like blinds with imprints of



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: The family space on the first floor overlooks the bar area.

The framed antique jewellery and the bedside lamps in the guestroom are chic.

The son's bedroom has a strong personality with a sturdy lounging chair, a study table in recycled wood and an antique wooden drawer.

Metal lamps suspended from the ceiling coupled with fascinating blinds and a tapering headboard in leather comprises the decor in the son's bedroom.

Replicating the use of a rope in the wall artwork and the study table are details that the architects have deliberately worked on.

The bar on the first floor has a beautiful wall featuring motifs of laser-cut stone. The browns of the cane furniture are equally complemented by the greens.





CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT A partition replicating a fairyland separates the study from the bed space in the daughter's bedroom.

The white wallpaper is colour coordinated with the furnishings and bestows a very gentle aesthetic to the daughter's bedroom.

Intricate detailing highlights the *puja* space.

A huge *puja* area (15'10" x 13') was the requirement of the clients.

The audio-video room makes for a cosy seating area. It also has a bed. The walls deftly camouflage the washroom door.



flags of various nations, a leather tapering headboard, a sturdy lounging chair, a study table in recycled wood, an antique wooden drawer and a metal lamp dropping from the ceiling feature in the son's bedroom. The daughter's space is evocative of a fairyland with petite feminine patterns running through the ceiling. The wallpaper has been coordinated with the headboard and the gentle wooden partition that imparts exclusivity to the study and seating area. The master bedroom has a regal touch — with seating and a four-poster bed. Huge walk-in wardrobes and luxurious attached bathroom designs accentuate the sleeping areas.

The loose furniture, artefacts and lighting were all picked up from China and Bali while the design of the fixed furniture and a lot of furnishings was conceptualized in-house. Straight-lined decor keeps the look minimalist. Of note are various handpicked pieces — the centre table in the formal living where individual pieces fit into each other replicating a jigsaw puzzle; a majestic chair-cum-sofa in the foyer; an intriguing triangular drawer space in the dining; and the wooden 10-seater dining table (made out of six 12' solid wood logs and table legs clad with pumice stone).

A lot of thought has been given to the placement of trendy eclectic furnishings and accessories — the lamp in the formal living, the peacock styled-mirror and the acrylic base drop lights clad with wood chips in the dining, the (almost) 3D-looking carpets in the



TOP The teak flooring and the use of veneers in the false ceiling add warmth to the master bedroom.

ABOVE LEFT A living area brings in a little colour to the brown colour palette in this extensive master bedroom.

ABOVE RIGHT A lot of detailing shows in the faucets and sanitaryware in the bathrooms, as seen here in the master bathroom.

foyer, formal living and family space; the light holders (the crushed tissue chandelier dropping from the wooden cross into the family living area defining the double height space, the light droplets in the master bedroom seating area and the bedside lamps in the guest room).

Ample greenery refurbishes the harder elements — as seen in the courtyards and terraced gardens, as creepers in the exterior wooden frames, or just as individual plants

peppered throughout the house. The sit-outs follow the Balinese sense of aesthetic. The bar on the first floor is done up tastefully in mint stone flooring and a beautiful wall featuring motifs of laser-cut stone follows a brown palette (also noticed in the natural fibre *chattai* topped by glass on the ceiling) and is well complimented with a lot of individual green plants.

At different times of the day, the house radiates a different ambience — in the





CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT A number of terraces are beckoning for some reflective time spent with oneself.

Natural fibre chattais topped by glass have been used as a ceiling design in the bar, terrace gardens and the landscaped sit-out

The covered landscaped sit-out on the ground floor revels in the Balinese style of architecture.

Each space has a lot of cosy features to evoke warmth.

morning, it is awash with natural light and the afternoon has the sun glazing in through the blinds emitting a yellowish warm flavour. At night, the twinkling stars and the subtle LED lighting bestow almost an exquisite feel to the space. Such a design shows respect for the architects who end up giving their clients' dreams fruition. At an IIA event earlier this year, architect Dilip Nadig rightly declared, "Because people respect architects, even if they might not understand them; there is lot of artistic freedom and personal experience in the field; and it gives way to tangible and sometimes (euphoric) results." Truly, this bungalow stands for all these qualities and more. **BI**

FACT FILE: Location Bangalore
Area 12,000 sq ft Principal architects
Anu Nadig, Dilip Nadig Design Team
Gayatri Kamath, Lakshmi M Year of
completion 2014 Duration of project
20 months

Smart Picks

A HOME BY NADIG ASSOCIATES

Mirror effect

If bare walls are not your cup of tea, here's a trick to make them more impactful. The next time you want to frame a picture/painting on a wall, use a mirror as its base. The result is not just an impressive framing idea; it would also reflect back the immediate surroundings... a double delight. It becomes a visual accessory that will definitely impress.



Waste makes wonder

You don't always need expensive and flashy materials to make stunning accessories. Take for instance, the interesting composition of mirrors which graces a wall on the second floor landing of this house. Picked up by the architects from Bali, the frames of these mirrors are made out of numerous rolled papers which resemble cigarettes. True, it was made with a lot of effort, but it's an ingenious way to use coloured paper or old newspapers. It's the ideal way to convert waste into wealth.



Mundane to majestic

They say first impressions are the most important ones. When it comes to homes, the entrance door is the first thing visitors encounter. So it is all the more important to create an impact at the outset. Though it's not the entrance door, the architects made sure that there are surprises hidden away in every corner. They have incorporated coconut shells in a weaving pattern on a linear panel on the door to create a feature element. Humble shells which are considered auspicious turn into objects of decoration. They also showcase the architects' genius creativity.

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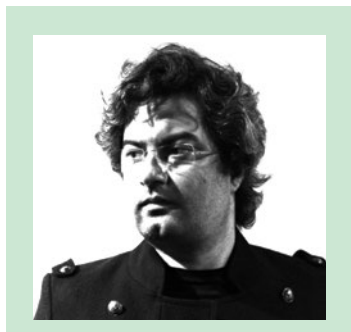
On a Different Beat

Conceived as a reconfigurable space for Art, with architectonic interventions, the Art District XIII created by Architecture Discipline is an un-imposing urban insert in Delhi's upcoming cultural hub.

COMPILED BY: DEEPA NAIR; PHOTOGRAPHS: JEETIN SHARMA; COURTESY THE ARCHITECT



The entrance to Art District XIII is impactful — a colourful effervescent screen created by twisted metal flats placed at varying intervals in white and neon green with pops of bold pink highlighting the brand colours. The partial transparency allows a glimpse of the interior space.



ARCHITECT

Akshat Bhatt

They say life in New Delhi's urban villages is defined by the two conflicting forces — on one side are the exploding unregulated development and a dense inherited city grain on the other.

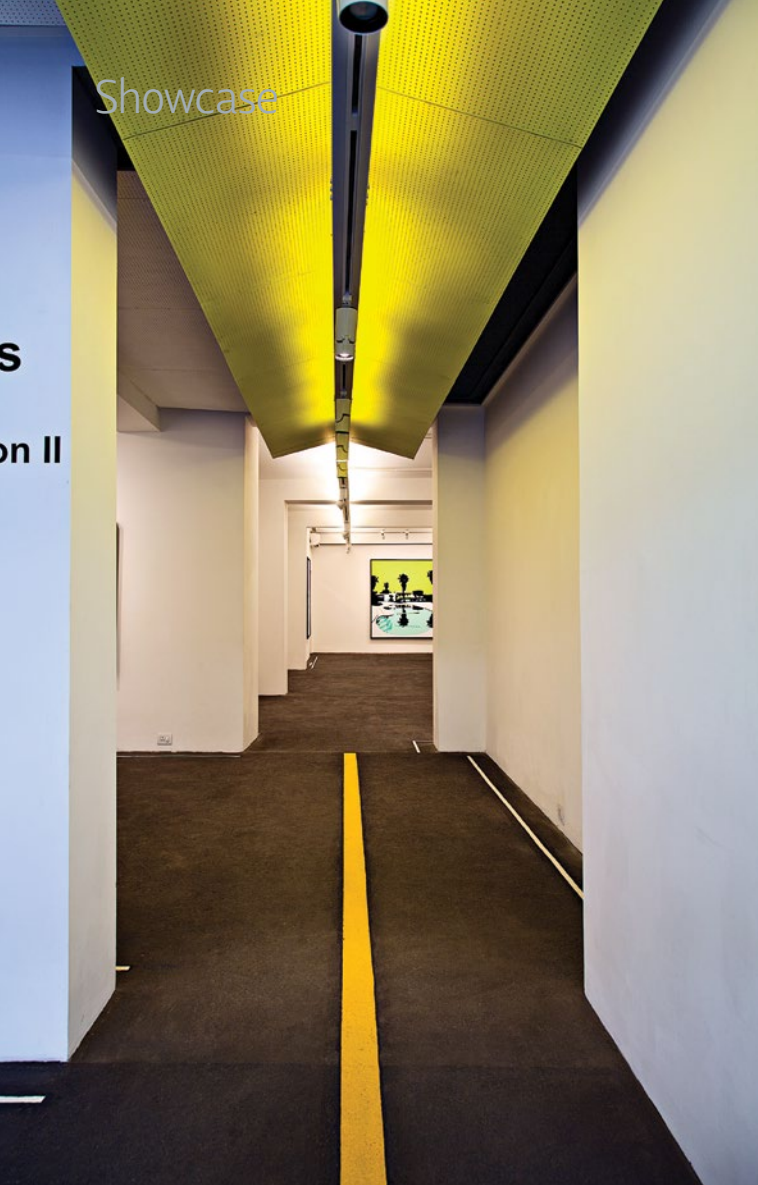
Defined by archaic laws that relied on a periphery demarcated by a red string (or *lal dora*), these ancient settlements are fast transforming into the city's hip areas as cheap rents attract young entrepreneurs with big ideas and limited budgets. Within this framework of chaos, New Delhi-based firm Architecture Discipline was asked to create a gallery space by a client who was a keen art collector.

"In the past century, the design of the modern art gallery has been reduced to a dumb white

box — it does not convey any visual information and thus cannot be processed as anything of interest by the layman or the casual passerby," explains Akshat Bhatt the principal architect. Therefore, rather than eliminating the possibility of a dialogue by creating a secure shuttered box to protect the precious internal objects, it was important to continue the engagement beyond closing hours to foster a relationship with the community by establishing an identifiable location on the street. It also echoed the ethos of the client... that art should be accessible and appreciated by all and therefore Art District XIII is an inviting gallery that dispels the notion that art is elitist.

As one approaches the gallery, a colourful effervescent screen comes into view.

Showcase



CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT A single bold yellow line starts outside the steps and leads one inwards into the space while a linear neon green pitched roof pulls the eye into the main gallery space.

At the main gallery space which has been consciously draped in white, the artworks come to life and engages a visitor intimately.

A closer look at the floating roof in steel which also incorporates a sleek track of lights.

The reception area is visible from outside too emphasizing and encouraging the inherent voyeuristic nature of the process of looking in to a private space from the street. Highlights here include the stark furniture in bold colours.

CONCEPT: To create a gallery which would foster a relationship with the community by establishing an identifiable location on the street to dispel the notion that art is elitist.

Composed entirely of twisted metal flats placed at varying intervals, the screen announces an artistic presence on the street. Predominantly white and neon green, there are a few splashes of bold pink highlighting the brand colours, echoed in two bold lollipop signs that carry the name of the gallery. The partial transparency allows a glimpse of the interior space, which seems almost like an extension of the street outside, an illusion furthered by a single bold yellow line that starts outside the steps and leads one inwards into the space.

“As we weren’t allowed to puncture the walls or make any structural changes, the challenge was to create a theatrical space that did not attempt to compete with the art on display but created enough interest to create a series of layered spaces that complemented the disjointed floor plan. Due

to the diminutive size of the space, it was important to have an entrance that created a transition from a brightly-lit outdoors to the dark interiors, without creating a sensation of being too enclosed,” asserts Akshat. From the entrance, a long thin unusable space was animated with a linear neon green pitched roof that pulls the eye into the main gallery space. Floating away from the walls, this creates a tunnel of vision by complementing the bold yellow line in the floor. Another pitched roof hovers above the reception area, but is inverted to allow for a wider outside view. These give way to a flat ceiling in the rear main gallery, creating a dialogue between clean white spaces that are inhabited by transient art and dynamic coloured spaces that are inherently engaging. Storage and back of house areas are discretely hidden away at the rear of the space and given an inexpensive maintenance free surface finish. Large panels

can be moved around to reconfigure the gallery for different sizes of artwork and these also form temporary storage areas.

Since the interior space had no daylight, the focus of the lighting was to create both a comfortable level of ambient lighting and focused areas of brighter lighting for the artwork, so it would “pop out” and capture attention. By carefully balancing the levels of illumination in the space to minimize shadow, we could ensure that there would be no gallery fatigue. Concurrently, the track system was designed in a way that the artwork could be suspended 100 mm away from the back wall so that the individual positions could be curated for maximum effect. This also creates the possibility of viewing the art from closer proximity by allowing for toe-in space, while allowing the gallery owners and artists to use the shadows for their own advantage, creating



MATERIALS

Facade Metal screens Walls Paint
Floating roof Steel

areas of emphasis. The bold line on the floor continues to wrap around the periphery of the gallery spaces and the cues from the street continue in the design of the artwork information plates. These are uniquely placed on the floor below each piece, akin to a parking sign, signifying the need to pause and engage with the work on display rather than pass by with the cursory glance. Truly, Art District XIII is the coming of age of art galleries in India... and celebrates the passion and commitment of two like-minded individuals (read, the client and the architects), who made a radical change in the general perception towards art and art galleries. **BI**

FACT FILE: Project Art District XIII
Location New Delhi Area 1,700 sq ft Client Kapil Chopra Principal architect Architecture Discipline Design team Akshat Bhatt, Nikhil Auluck, Nishant Malhotra Lighting Lirio Lopez Carpentry/ Glass Naushad Ali / DassKarigars

Presenting a range of flooring options, a smart measuring device, an innovative juicer and more...



DESIGNER SURFACES

H&R Johnson has launched the New Spanish Collection of tiles inspired by new-age cultural, social, architectural and artistic trends. The collection has been grouped in five sub-collections. While the Modern Clean Line range showcases the beauty of ceramics and is designed with patterns in soothing shades; the Art Line one has tonal variations of colours such as grey, blue, brown, etc. Earthy shades and geometric patterns define the Unique Relief and Textures range and the True Rock series is inspired by nature. Lastly, minutely designed pearl-like patterns in monochrome shades form the Metal and Rare Mineral series.

PRICE ON REQUEST



SOAK SMOKE

The sleek and streamlined Powerpack chimneys launched by Fisher & Paykel are a compact solution to ventilate your kitchen. Made from black glass and stainless steel, they are available in 60 cm and 90 cm models. They come with dimmer lights, ducted or recirculation options, multi-layered aluminum filter, soft touch button, timer function and filter cleaning indicator.

PRICE ON REQUEST



IN VINYL GLORY

Pergo's latest collection of vinyl flooring has 14 designs in two quality levels ie Optimum and Premium. The products in Optimum range belong to Class-33 with glue down laying system which is preferred for commercial areas while Class-32 premium range products have PerfectFold TM 3.0 installation system, made for residential use. The planks are easy to install and durable and the PUR (Polyurethane) coating over the top surface makes the flooring tough yet beautiful. Prominent designs include the Natural Oak vinyl (inspired by natural wood) and; Silver Oak (modern lines).

PRICE ON REQUEST



DIGITAL MARVEL

The Digital Measuring device from Bosch comes a must have product for every household. It comes handy while measuring for hanging pictures, buying furniture, renovating your house or just about anything. This stylish and compact device works on laser technology and can easily fit into your pocket to help you measure on the go. Other notable features include a sliding switch that immediately starts continuous measurement; a hold button that stops or restarts the continuous measurement and a soft grip.

₹ 4,000



PERSONAL MASSEUR

The ulnfinity massage chair launched by Osim India offers a “humanized massage” pleasure from head to toe. The innovative download massage technology offers the widest choice of humanized massage programs designed by Japanese Chiropractic Massage Expert Sato Tsuyoshi: the Humanized massage and the Lifestyle Massage Programs. The intelligent design can help you listen to your favourite songs with ulnfinity built-in-stereo speakers while you lie back for a holistic mind and body experience. You can enjoy complete control of the chair from a touch screen controller with a large, easy-to-read colour-rich LCD display.

₹ 4,99,000



HEALTHY JUICER

Enjoy a healthy homemade juice at home with Philips' Quickclean Juicer that extracts 10 percent more juice from your fruit and vegetables and cleans up within a minute with its revolutionary QuickClean technology. The juice extraction system with the upside down sieve extracts up to 10 per cent more juice, while the 80 mm extra large feeding tube is suited for fruits and vegetables of all sizes. The product is available in ink black and aluminium finish and is dishwasher safe.

₹ 10,495 (HR1863) ₹ 9,495 (HR1855)



THE SLIM HEATER

Racold Thermo has unveiled Velis, the slimmest storage electrical water heater. With only 27 cm depth, Velis is not only the slimmest in its contemporaries, but also boasts of an extremely beautiful metalized exterior. It has dual tank and dual heating elements that help make the product suitable to different types of bathing requirements. Its smart Eco feature helps in heating water optimally with the minimum use of energy. The water heater range comes in 25 litre, 45 litre and 65 litre options in three front panel variants: black, silver and sand.

PRICE ON REQUEST



HD TREATS

RAK Ceramics has launched a new range of ceramic wall tiles in its Venezia DGpix series. The range consists of HD digitally-printed ceramic wall tiles with its highlighters having unique punch effects like emboss or luster. Available in sizes 300mm x 600mm, 300mm x 450mm and 375mm x 250mm; it comes with over 50 new designer concepts. These tiles have utility characteristics like low water absorption, resistance to stains, creasing and abrasion and high durability ensuring a long lasting life.

₹ 60 PER SQ FT

directory



DESIGNBYTES ROUNDAABOUT

BOOK REVIEW

**HIDDEN GARDENS OF PARIS:
A GUIDE TO THE PARKS,
SQUARES, AND WOODLANDS
OF THE CITY OF LIGHT**
Available at www.amazon.com;
www.infibeam.com

TECHNIQUES

TABLE OF GRACE

PINAKIN
2nd Floor, Raghuvanshi
Mansion, Raghuvanshi Mills
Compound, Senapati Bapat
Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 13;
Tel: 65002400; Website:
www.pinakin.in

XMAS GLAM

PINAKIN
(See Above)

HI FIVE

IDUS
10/57, Kirti Nagar Industrial
Area, New Delhi 15;
Tel: 45888000;
Website: www.idus.in

**INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE
BRANDS**
Ground Floor, The Gallery,
251-252 Mehrauli-Gurgaon
Road, New Delhi 30;
Tel: 41012161

ROCHE BOBOIS
Senapati Bapat Marg, Tower 1,
Indiabulls Financial Centre,
Mumbai 13; Tel: 61062233;

Website: www.roche-bobois.com

STUDIO CRO
E 52 New Manglapuri, Mandi
Road, Mehrauli, New Delhi 30;
Tel: 46002100; Website: www.studiocreo.com

VISIONNAIRE
Website: www.visionnaire-home.com

THINGTANK

SWISH LIST

ANEMOS
11/12, Krishna House, Ground
Floor, Raghuvanshi Estate,
Senapati Bapat Marg, Gandhi
Nagar, Upper Worli, Lower
Parel, Mumbai 13; Tel:
24934306. Also at Unit No 6/C,
Laxmi Industrial Estate,
Oshiwara, New Link Road,
Andheri(W), Azad Nagar,
Mumbai 53; Website: www.anemos.in

BUZZARIA
Bhram House, F/343 Lado
Sarai, Old M.B. Road, Near
Crescent, New Delhi 30;
Tel: 45793261

COCOON FINE RUGS
A - Block Basement, Shiv Sagar
Estate, Dr. A. B. Road, Worli,
Mumbai 18; Tel: 24928647;
Email: mail@cocooncarpets.com;
Website: www.cocooncarpets.com

D&M BUILDING PRODUCTS
No.3C- 137, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross,
2nd Main Road, Kasturi Nagar,
Bangalore 560043;
Tel: 49050000; Email:
marketing@dnmindia.in

HOUSE OF RARO
356-357, Sultanpur, M.G. Road,
New Delhi 30; Tel:
8527443666; Email: info@houseofraro.com

MAISHAA
2 Kohinoor, 29 Hughes Road,
Mumbai 7; Tel: 67718181. Also
at, Home Stop, Select City
Walk, Saket, New Delhi 17;
Tel: 27353823

SURPRISE HOME LINEN
South End 7, Ratnavali, 1st
Gaunthan Lane, Santacruz (W),
Mumbai 54; Tel: 26493047;
Website: www.surprise-linen.com

TANGERINE
Star Bazaar, HM Vibha Tower,
Ward No.63, Koramangla,
Bangalore 560029;
Website: www.mytangerinetree.com

BAZAAR

ANEMOS
(See Swish List)

ARTTD'INOX
B-77 Ground Floor, Defence
Colony, New Delhi 49;
Tel: 9560527222; Also at
Premises No. 102, 1st Floor,
Orbit Terraces, Opposite
Kamala Mills, Senapati Bapat
Road, Lower Parel, Mumbai
13; Tel: 7506363207; Website:
www.arttdinox.com

AT EASE
301, Kingston, Tejpal Road,
Vile Parle (E), Mumbai 57;
Tel: 26185996; Email: info@atease-store.com;
Website: www.atease-store.com

D'MART EXCLUSIF
D-189, Okhla Phase-I, New
Delhi 20; Toll Free: 1800
103 3302; Email: inquiry@dmartexclusif.com

dmartexclusif.com; Website:
www.dmartexclusif.com

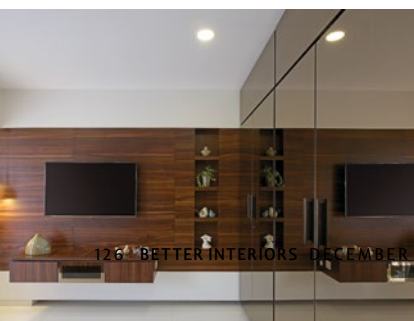
ELVY LIFESTYLE
32, MGF Megacity Mall, Near
Sikanderpur Metro Station,
Mehrauli-Gurgaon Rd,
Saraswati Vihar, DLF Phase 1,
Sector 28, Gurgaon 122002;
Tel: 4578888

EPISODE
N-10, Greater Kailash 1
Market, New Delhi 48; Tel:
29237773/4. Also at, 3, Shiv
Smriti Chambers, nxt to RBI,
49A, AB Rd, Worli, Mumbai 18;
Tel: 24907070/8080

FRAZER & HAWS
11, Main Market, Lodhi Colony,
Hauz Khas, New Delhi 110013;
Tel: 24611516

GOOD EARTH
11-12, Raghuvanshi Mills,
Senapati Bapat Mg, Lower
Parel, Mumbai 13; Tel:
24951954. Also at, Select
Citywalk Mall, New Delhi 17;
Tel: 29565600;
Website: www.goodearth.in

HOME CENTRE
Lower Ground, Ambience Mall,
Vasant Kunj, Phase 2, Nelson
Mandela Mg, Delhi 70;
Tel: 40870300; Also
available at, Oberoi Mall,
Western Express Highway,
Near Dindoshi Flyover,
Goregaon (E), Mumbai 63;
Tel: 40798200; 2nd Floor,
Lifestyle, Oasis Centre, No 30,
Inner Ring Rd, Koramangala,
Bangalore 560 079;
Tel: 40276400; www.lifestylestores.com/



Directory



homecentre/home
centre.html

HOUSE PROUD

Mobile: 9699 388 449;
Website: www.houseproud.in

IDUS

(See Hi Five)

INTERARTS

Manik Bhawan, 583
M.G.Road, Indore 452001;
Mobile: 9301883636

INV HOME

Shop No. 1, First Floor,
N-Block Market, GK-I, New
Delhi 48; Tel: 29233122

LE CRUESSET

No. 25, Lavelle Road,
Bangalore 560001; Tel:
(080) 40926824; Website:
www.lecrueset.com

NESTOPIA

Century Infotech Pvt. Ltd.,
1506, Range Heights,
Sarvodaya Nagar, Behram
Bagh, Jogeshwari West,
Mumbai 2;
Mobile: 8080255233;
Website: www.nestopia.com

PEPPERFRY

Tel: 61417379; Website: www.
pepperfry.com

PORTSIDE CAFE

F301 Lado Sarai (CH. Prem
Singh Comp), New Delhi 30;
Tel: 46054371; Website:
www.portsidecafe.com

RAVISSANT

New India Centre, 17 - A,
Cooperage Road, Mumbai 39;
Tel: 22873405/22873406;

Email: erpnic@ravissant.in.
Also at Abhay Chambers, 131,
August Kranti Marg, Kemp's
Corner, Mumbai 36; Tel:
23684934/23637003
Email: erpkcm@ravissant.in;
Website: www.ravissant.in

SAFOMASI

Tel: 9811130305; Email: hello@
safomasi.com; Website: www.
safomasi.com

SANCTUM

19th Rd, Khar West, Mumbai
52; Tel: 26495775; Website:
www.sanctumstore.com

SWAROVSKI

Touchstone India Pvt Ltd, 231
Link Corner Bldg, Shop No 3,
Linking Rd, Bandra, Mumbai
50; Tel: 26402510. Also at,
Crysretail (Select City), 8-A,
Gr Flr, Select City Mall, A-3,
District Centre, Saket, New
Delhi 17; Tel: 40534580/6;
Glittex Inc, Unit No 106, The
Forum Mall, No 21 Hosur Rd,
Bangalore 29;
Tel: 22067788/89,

THE FURNITURE REPUBLIC

1st Floor, KST Southend, 416
MG Road, Ghitori, New Delhi;
Tel: 8527100311; Also at A-32,
Sector 63, (off NH-24 bypass),
Noida; Tel: (0120) 4336333;
Website: www.tfrhome.com

THE GREAT EASTERN HOME

The New Great Eastern Spg
And Wvg Mill, Dr Babasaheb
Ambedkar Rd, Byculia, Mumbai
27; Tel: 22910764. Also at
Khanna Estate, LBS Road,
Opposite HDFC Bank,
Vikhroli West, Mumbai 79;
Tel: 25777272; Website: www.
thegreateasternhome.com

THE HOME OF THE TRAVELER

K # 368 & 369, Sultanpur Mg
(Turn Into Lane Opposite
Metro Pillar # 16 B), New Delhi
30; Tel: 26801577; Email:
mgstore@thtlifestyle.com;
Website: www.thehomeofthe
traveler.com

THE WHITE WINDOW

330 Palatial Building, Ground
Floor, 21 Ambedkar Road,

Bandra (W), Mumbai 50;
Tel: 26465957; Email: info@
thewhitewindow.co; Website:
thewhitewindow.co

VILLEROY & BOCH

Website: www.villeroy-
boch.com

CENTRESTAGE

HABITAT

TWICE AS NICE ZERO9

72, Ground Floor, Om Heera
Panna Mall, New Link Road,
Oshiwara, Andheri (W);
Mumbai 53; Tel: 42661709;
Email: info@zero9.in;
Website: www.zero9.in

FREE REIGN

NADIG ASSOCIATES

195, 2nd C cross, Domlur 2nd
Stage, Bangalore 560071;
Tel: (080) 42694333; Email:
admin@nadigconsulting.
com; Website: www.
nadigconsulting.com

SHOWCASE

ON A DIFFERENT BEAT

ARCHITECTURE DISCIPLINE

U-18 Basement, Green
Park, New Delhi; Tel:
46028676; Email: mail@
architecturediscipline.
com; Website: www.
architecturediscipline.com

FINAL TAKE

GALLERY

BOSCH INDIA

Tel: 8067521111; Website:
www.boschindia.com

FISHER & PAYKEL

Website: www.fisher
paykel.com

H&R JOHNSON

Windsor, 7th Flr, CST
Rd, Kalina, Santacruz



(E), Mumbai 98; Tel:
30647300/26547300;
Toll free: 1800227484;
Email: customercare@
hrjohnsonindia.com;
Website: www.hrjohnson
india.com

OSIM INDIA

1, L.S.C. Okhla Industrial
Area, Okhla Main Road,
Okhla Phase II, New Delhi
20; Tel: 41070000; Email:
webshop@osimindia.com

PERGO INDIA

65, Doctor E Moses Rd, Worli,
Mumbai 18; Tel: 6627900.
M/13, 1st Flr, GK-II, New Delhi
48; Tel: 41435741/42; Email:
india@pergo.com; Website:
www.pergo.com

RACOLD THERMO

Gate No: 264/265/374/376,
Chakan-Talegaon Road,
Chakan Pune 410501; Tel:
(021) 35674700; Email:
marketing@racold.com;
Website: racold.com

RAK CERAMICS

1-6, Dheeraj Heritage,
1st Flr, Junction of Milan
Subway, SV Rd, Santacruz
(W), Mumbai 54; Tel:
26605704/06. Also at
7/27, 1st Floor, Industrial
Area, Kirti Nagar, Near
Interior Park, New Delhi 15;
Tel: 9212702423. No.26,
Ethiraj Salai, 1st Floor, Fagun
Chamber, Egmore, Chennai
600008; Tel: 9282200133
/65155277; Email: mktg@
rakindia.com; Website: www.
rakindia.com



{Final Take} Pick Apart

Pg 90 It's hard to pick one favourite thing in this bungalow and that itself is a big compliment to its creators, Nadig Associates. Every space in this huge house is impressive. Whether it's the three wise monkeys standing tall in the garden, the giraffes on the staircase landing, the lovely lush terrace, or the four-poster bed, one can go on rambling about the house. So much thought has been put into designing the space. I especially love the fact that the interiors are not over-the-top but make a statement with its minimalist design. Even the white facade of the house peeping through the lush green trees makes for a striking image. A lovely space I'd say!

Kishor Sosa



Pg 44 Christmas is one of my favourite festivals. Having grown up watching Hollywood classics such as *Home Alone*, *Jingle All the Way* and *The Santa Clause*, one cannot help but love everything about this beautiful and heart-warming festival. The image of all the adorable elves making gifts, chocolates and toys in the North Pole in *The Santa Clause* is etched in my memory. Therefore, when I laid my eyes on the cutest Santa's helper in the *Bazaar* pages, it instantly brought a smile to my face. If age is just a number, then I'd like to wish for my own personal elf from Santa this Christmas (especially since I've been really good this year!).

Vilas Salve



Everyone has their favourites and the **Better Interiors** team is no exception. Sure, we are a bunch of committed 'unbiased' folk who report on design trends faithfully... but we also drool and how!



Pg 78 Food is my passion. I find nothing more interesting than observing the cook rooms in various homes we feature and decide what I like, don't like and pick ideas for my 'ideal' kitchen (whenever I have one of my own). While hiring the services of an interior designer helps in turning your vision into reality, it is very important to have a strong sense of what you would like your home to be, especially the areas that you connect with. The kitchen and dining area in the home designed by Zero9 is a space I could connect with at first glance, as it reverberates with the personality of the lady of the house. The kitchen has an old-worldly charm about it and the colourful earthenware, the jaisalmer-bordered arch frame, the customized tiles for the dado make it picture perfect.

Alifiya Mehamdabadwala